

ANDOVER TOWNSMAN

Our 112th Year

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Photo by Carol Van Doren

Let there be lights — Temple Emanuel Rabbi Robert Goldstein assists Andrew Dunne, 3, of the Temple preschool, in lighting the first candle of Hanukkah, the eight-day Festival of Lights, which began last Friday evening. For a schedule of the concluding Hanukkah events, see page 33.

Officials eye Prop 2½ override

By Neil Fater

Staring at five-year forecasts that predict annual budget deficits of as much as \$11.7 million, town officials on Monday night discussed possibly needing a Proposition 2½ override to pay for Andover's annual operating budgets during the next five years.

This possibility was suggested to about 15 other town officials by one of the town's most dedicated number crunchers, Finance Committee member Joanne Marden.

Although town officials this year have considered asking for a debt exclusion override to pay for the new public safety center approved by 1999 Town Meeting, Marden said that over-

ride will not be sufficient to handle the town's projected problems.

"The \$11.7 million is not going to be solved with the \$1.4 million debt exclusion," said Marden. "The numbers say it doesn't solve the problem. It's like a Band Aid, but I think it could be a hard sell.

"I'm concerned about focusing so much on the safety center that we lose the big picture," she said.

Marden's comments came after Peter Johnson-Staub, management analyst, presented five possible scenarios for paying for projected, future operating budgets. These scenarios

(Continued on page 20)

Selectman hopeful seriously hurt

By Neil Fater

Ted Teichert, president of Andover Junior Football and a candidate for selectmen, is recovering in the intensive care unit of Beth Israel Hospital after falling off his roof Saturday.

Teichert lost a lot of blood, and counts six broken ribs, a broken collarbone and a broken wrist among his injuries, says Erin Lynch, Teichert's sister.

"He was cleaning his gutters and he slipped and fell onto his deck. It was about a 15- to 18-

foot fall," she says.

After falling off his roof, Teichert was taken to Lawrence General Hospital and then air-lifted to Beth Israel in Boston. Lynch says doctors there were still running tests on her brother as of Tuesday afternoon, three days after the fall.

"He's banged up," she says. "Right now, (new information) is an hour-by-hour thing, when they do this test or that test.

"He's still in ICU at Beth Israel, and as of an hour ago, they needed to do an MRI, so there's

(Continued on page 18)

Andover rank rises MCAS by the numbers

By Rebecca Lipchitz

Andover's MCAS results this year show marked improvement at Andover High School, and greater consistency in elementary school scores, showing that the school system's efforts to align curricula with state frameworks is right on track, administrators say.

Andover was ranked as tied for 11th in the state for its cumulative district score this year, up from a ranking of 18 last year. Based on elementary school scores only, Andover ranks 16th. At the middle-school level, it ranks eighth.

Andover High School students in 10th grade earned the sixth-highest MCAS scores for high schools across the state, tied with Medfield and Concord-Carlisle.

State Rep. Barry Finegold, D-Andover, says he feels the ranking proves that Andover High School provides students with the best "bang for their buck," and offers an education and a chance at attending competitive colleges equal to that of Phillips Academy.

"I'm a proud alumnus," says Finegold, a member of the Andover High School class of 1989.

What's up, what's down

Assistant Superintendent Marinel McGrath reports a general decrease in students scoring in the "needs improvement" and "failing" categories.

The 1999 percentages of students scoring in proficient and advanced categories are up from 1998 scores in all subjects for fourth grade, up in English for eighth grade and up in math and science in 10th grade.

But the percentages of students failing or needing improvement is up in fourth- and eighth-grade math, and in eighth-grade in English and science and technology.

This year is the first year students were tested in social studies. Fourth-graders took a practice test in the subject this year, while eighth-graders took the first official history and social science test.

Students in eighth-grade this year

(Continued on page 17)

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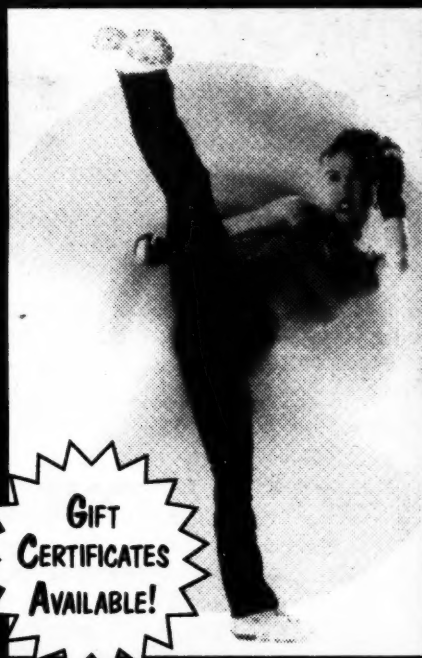
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TownTalk



Photo by Lisa Adelsberger

Don't tread on our land? No, perambulating the bounds of the town is much more friendly than that. Still, Andover selectmen (clockwise, from left) Chairman John Hess, Brian Major, Lori Becker and Mary French couldn't resist trying to look a bit historical, by raising a flag that also happened to be Major's New England Patriots jersey, at the boundary with North Andover.

Perfect perambulations

Selectmen climbed Holt Hill Sunday not because it was there, but because they had to. Turns out it's the law.

Selectmen say that according to a municipal article they read recently, a 1692 Massachusetts law requires them to "perambulate" around the outskirts of town at least once every five years. Today, we call this walking.

Anyway, the law, which predates the country, requires selectmen to walk their boundary with members of adjacent towns to assure that everyone still agrees on the communities' boundaries. Although this law is technically still on the books, senior Selectman Larry Larsen says he has never perambulated around the town's boundary during his nine years on the board.

"I don't think anyone does it

seriously. It's an arcane feature," says Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski.

"It's a good excuse for a walk," admits Larsen. "I think with all our high-tech measuring from the skies that we do, perambulating isn't necessary."

But as ridiculous as the law may seem, selectmen last week said they were actually looking forward to "perambulating the bounds" for the first time in any of their careers.

"This group is just into doing different things. We don't get a lot of time to spend together other than when we're in meetings or at parades. I look at this as a team-building exercise," said Lori Becker.

"We spend a lot of time in that (selectmen's) room in town hall and I just thought it would

(Continued on page 4)



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NEWS IN BRIEF

ACA sets Open House, Breakfast with Santa

Andover Center Association will hold its annual "Holiday Open House" Friday, Dec. 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. "Kick off your holiday shopping and enjoy refreshments offered by downtown Andover business."

To add to your enjoyment, the event will also feature a hayride, St. Augustine's Handbell Choir, Mill City Jazz Band and Interfaith Choral Group."

The Association will also hold its annual "Breakfast with Santa" Saturday, Dec. 18, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Old Town Hall, 20 Main St.

Have breakfast and your picture taken with Santa and let him know what you would like to find under your Christmas tree.

Elder health clinic set

Home Health VNA will offer an elderly health clinic in Andover on Monday, Dec. 20, from 1-2 p.m.

The clinics are conducted by Home

Health VNA registered nurses and sponsored in part through town funds funding from the Older Americans Act as granted by Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley.

The clinics focus on preventative care, and assist elders in maintaining good health through blood pressure checks, weight management, and nutrition and medication counseling. The clinics are open to the public and are handicapped accessible.

Andover clinics are staffed jointly by Home Health VNA and the Andover Health Department.

For more information, call the Andover Health Department at 623-8295 or Home Health VNA at (978) 552-4716.

Parking ban starts

Overnight parking on Andover streets is now banned until the days become a whole lot warmer.

Police banned overnight parking on all Andover public ways, beginning Wednesday, Dec. 1. Police issued yellow warning flyers on cars this past week, but say they will begin ticketing soon, probably by today, Thursday, Dec. 9.

Web poll results

Last week's question on the *Townsmen's* Web page was, **Do you think Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski should be reappointed for another five years?**

Apparently the manager should be glad that Web surfers aren't deciding his employment fate. With 35 online voters responding, the vote was 20-15 against Stapczynski's reappointment.

This week's question is: **Would you support a permanent override of Proposition 2½ to cover the expanded costs of new schools, a new public safety center and other town services?**

Surf to www.andovertownsmen.com and cast your vote.

Quote, unquote . . .

'After all, if our son attended Andover High, there is the frightening possibility that he might get Mr. Wettergreen for a teacher."

Rick Elias, responding to a letter from Andover High School English teacher Charles Wettergreen complaining about a Central Catholic High School advertisement.

'It wasn't enough for people who wanted everything, and too much for people who wanted nothing."

Andover Health Agent and Dracut resident Everett Penney, on the approval of a natural-gas power plant in that town.

'Ithink they let the company off the hook."

Laura Jordan, plant opponent and founding member of Merrimack Valley Residents for the Environment.

NEWS CALENDAR

Thursday, December 9

School Committee, School Committee room, School Administration Building, community meeting, 7 p.m.

School Building Committee, third-floor conference room, Town Offices, 6:30 p.m.

Teachers Negotiating Subcommittee, executive session, Greater Lawrence Technical School, 57 River Road, 3:30 p.m.

Monday, December 13

Board of Health, second-floor conference room, Town Offices, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, December 14

Healthy Communities Tobacco Awareness Committee, Old Town Hall, 1 p.m.

Planning Board, third-floor conference room, Town Offices, 7:30 p.m.

Recycling Committee, conference room, Water Treatment Plant, 7:30 p.m.

Preservation Commission, second-floor conference room, Town Offices, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 15

Finance Committee, third-floor conference room, Town Offices, 7:30 p.m.

Merrimack Regional Trail Mapping Project, Merrimack Valley Planning Commission Office, 160 Main St., Haverhill, 6 p.m.-8 p.m.

December 18

School Building Committee, third-floor conference room, Town Offices, 7:30 p.m.

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TOWN TALK

(Continued from page 2)

be something nice to do that wasn't so formal and bureaucratic," said Chairman John Hess, who suggested the idea.

Selectmen set out with the goal of finding a few of the dozen markers that supposedly have been placed around town, establishing the Andover town line.

"We found one marker on Holt Hill that marks the border between North Andover and Andover," said Hess, after the hike. "It didn't have a date on it saying when it was placed, but we think it might have been from 1906, because we have a book (that says) several markers were placed then."

Selectmen were unsuccessful in finding another marker near Tucker Road, but promised to try again soon.

"We're going to go back. We'll find it," pledged Hess.

And next time, they may bring selectmen from another town with them. As they used to say in 1692, the more perambulators, the merrier.

— Neil Fater

Veterans Agent marks Pearl Harbor

Veteran's Agent

John Doherty is a veteran of Vietnam, not World War II.

But this week he marked the 58th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor that killed 2,403 Americans and precipitated the most costly war in U.S. history.

"The attack on a Sunday morning caught most of the U.S. Pacific fleet and Army units woefully unprepared and did devastating damage to America's military in Hawaii and the Far East," he says.

"The treacherous nature of the attack, however, caused national revulsion and galvanized the country into a successful war effort, thus turning Japan's greatest victory into the forerunner of her most ignominious defeat.

"Americans older than age 60 will never forget where they were when they learned of the attack and their reaction to it," he said.



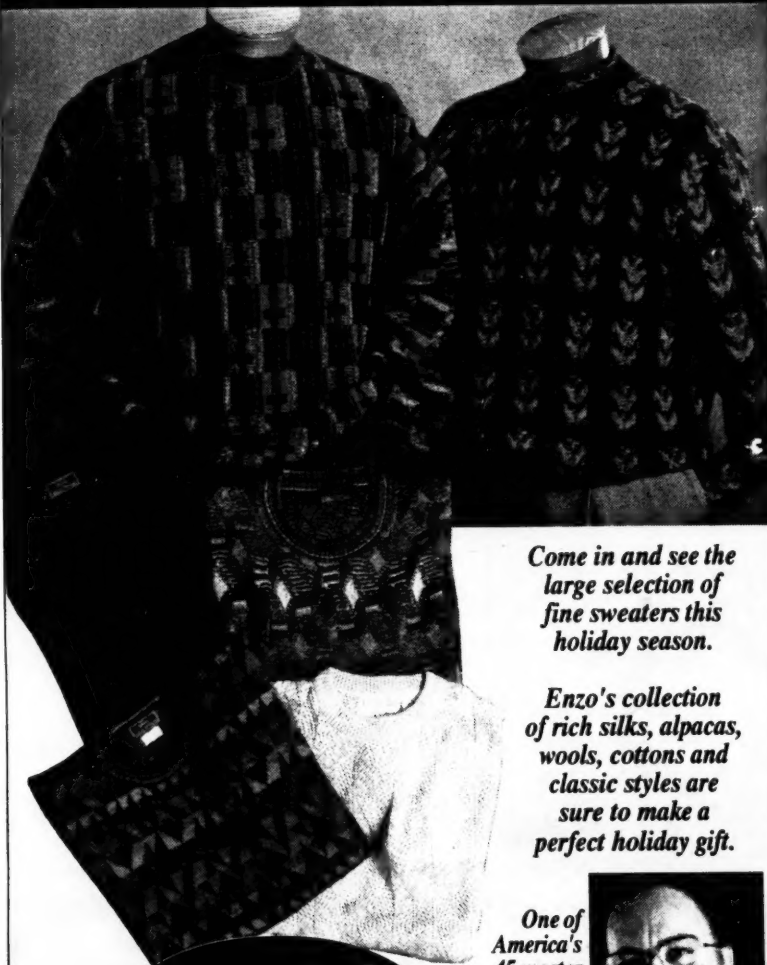
John Doherty



Photo by Lisa Adelsberger

Hey, free food and a limo! Several Doherty Middle School students who participated in a magazine drive fund raiser for the Student Council won a drawing that treated them this week not only to lunch with their principal, Floyd McManus, but also a ride to the meal in a stretch limousine. The students (from left) Paul McLaughlin, Mark Radlinski, Peter Burke-Wallace, Pat McCarron, Kristin Costagliola, Jayne Day, Kierstyn Kalman and Allison Abreau chose Grassfields for lunch, but also took a little tour of town on the way, stopping to look at their elementary schools, South and Bancroft.

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Saints Memorial employees sick after holiday party on Friday

By Rebecca Lipchitz

Employees of the Saints Memorial Medical Center gastrointestinal unit had more than upset stomachs this week after a holiday party at the Indian Ridge Country Club last Friday evening.

The Andover Health Department is investigating at the country club after more than 30 employees called in sick after the party.

"We're not sure exactly what we all got. We haven't figured it out yet," says nurse Marla Tobin of the endoscopy department, at the hospital.

Hospital employees from several departments including the surgical unit and the gastrointestinal unit attended the dinner.

More than 100 Saints Memorial employees dined at the party, and less than

half of them have reported feeling ill, says Indian Ridge Country Club Manager Susan Crawford.

"Obviously we are concerned, but there is no consistency in what the people ate. We are still looking into it," she says.

Everett Penney, Andover's director of public health, says that food poisoning has not been ruled out, but the onset of symptoms a day later or in some cases two days later would not normally indicate food poisoning.

One way to identify bacteria, Penney says, is the amount of time it takes to affect a patient.

Most bacteria associated with food poisoning, such as *Campylobacter*, *Shigella*, or *Salmonella*, cause symptoms that appear within 24 hours, he says.

As of Tuesday, Penney

said he had begun to interview a few of the employees who became ill after the dinner.

"At very first glance, we have people who are getting sick at times not commensurate with food poisoning," he says.

The Andover Health Department inspected the country club Tuesday in response to the complaint, and found some sanitary code violations and insect infestation, which do not necessarily indicate any evidence of a bacterial outbreak that would cause food poisoning, Penney says.

"The inspection we did (Tuesday) showed some pretty deplorable conditions," Penney says. He planned to reinspect the Country Club on Wednesday, after *Townsman* press time.

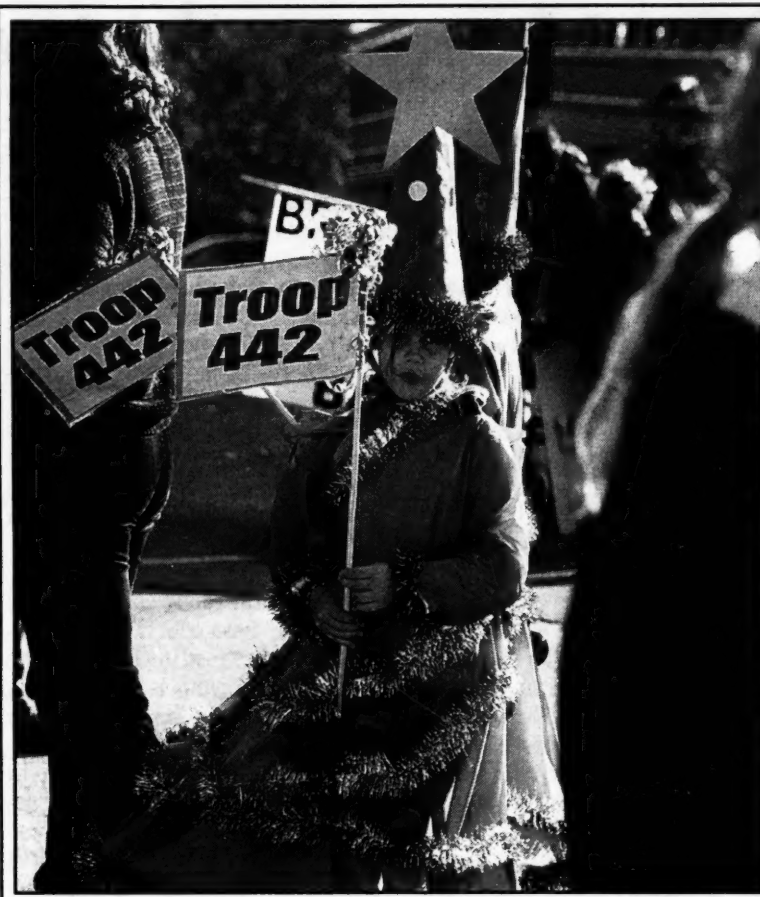


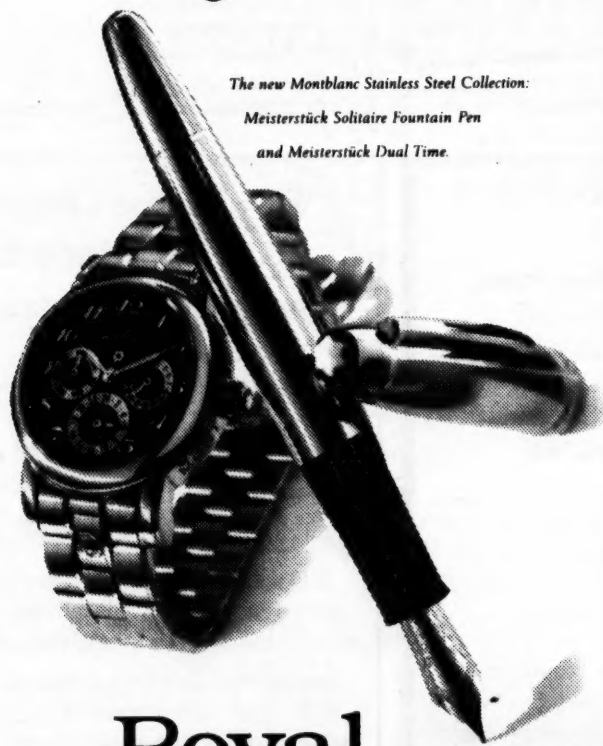
Photo by Lisa Adelsberger

Well-trimmed — Becky Wrightson, 9, of Brownie Troop 442, marched in last week's Santa Parade. The outfit was made by troop leader Abigail O'Hara.

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Dracut approves plant with restrictions

By Rebecca Lipchitz

Dracut Selectmen unanimously approved last week a special permit for the Nickel Hill Energy proposed 750-megawatt, natural-gas power plant.

The permit includes a lengthy order of conditions, which to some, addresses many concerns, and for others, serves little purpose.

"I think they let the company off the hook," says Laura Jordan, of Andover. Jordan, a founding member of the Merrimack Valley Residents for the Environment (MVRE), says efforts to sway selectmen to deny the permit were fruitless.

"We went to all the hearings, prepared our comments, and did our research. If all we have to show for it is this order of conditions, it's a real concern, as well as a disappointment," Jordan says.

The permit includes more than 20 pages of special conditions, many of which require Nickel Hill to stick to its own proposal in developing the plant.

Before the plant is built, the company must obtain permits from state environmental agen-

cies, including air quality permits from the Department of Environmental Protection and the Energy Facilities Siting Board.

Andover director of public health Everett Penney, a resident of Dracut, says he believes many residents' concerns were adequately addressed in the Dracut selectmen's permit order of conditions.

"Generally, the conditions were pretty comprehensive. It wasn't enough for people who wanted everything, and too much for people who wanted nothing," Penney says.

The permit requires Nickel Hill to use its "best efforts" at obtaining a reduction in local air pollution. The company is required by state law to buy up "points" for pollution allowed for power plants in the eastern United States in an effort to reduce pollution. The special permit recommends that the "points" purchased by Nickel Hill be from another plant within the Merrimack Valley to reduce local pollution.

Penney says he was hoping the company would be required to do more ambient air quality moni-

toring studies.

"I think we have a unique situation here in the valley that hasn't been analyzed," he says.

Air-quality hearings were recently completed at the Energy Facilities Siting Board, Jordan says.

Hearings at the EFSB on a number of issues are expected to close at the end of December.

The more than 100 conditions required by Dracut Selectmen include:

- Numerous environmental conditions related to air, water, and wetland impacts;
- A limit on the amount of water allowed to be withdrawn from the Merrimack River of 4.4 million gallons maximum per day (see related story, at right), not to exceed an annual daily average withdrawal of 2.8 million gallons;
- Prohibition of the use of any fuel other than natural gas to generate electricity for commercial purposes;
- Site buffering and noise limits;
- Limits on construction truck traffic;
- Limits on heights of buildings and other structures.

Dracut Selectman Warren Shaw says he believes the amount of time selectmen spent on the issue and the help of an environmental consultant led the board to draft a permit that addresses residents' concerns.

"We think we've protected everybody," Shaw says, adding that the permit requires Nickel Hill to revisit the technology in use at the plant as new methods become available and make an effort to reduce the use of ammonia.

Selectmen participated in more than 80 hours of meetings before approving the permit, Shaw says, but their job is not over.

The day-to-day enforcement of permit conditions also falls on them, he says.

"We're responsible for it if anything goes wrong. Any action on the permit has to come back to the board," Shaw says.

In a press release issued last week, Nickel Hill developers said they were pleased with the decision.

Anyone planning to appeal the approval of the special permit is required to file with the Dracut Town Clerk 20 days from Tuesday, Dec. 7, the day the permit was signed by Dracut selectmen.

Sale of water could bring flood of profit

By Rebecca Lipchitz

While some Andover residents say the amount of water expected to be used in operating a proposed power plant in Dracut could mean trouble for the river, it could mean a boon to a company that owns water rights to a section of the Merrimack River.

The special permit issued to the Nickel Hill Energy Project by the Dracut Board of Selectmen requires the company to investigate an alternate method of cooling in its power generating process, but if the company uses the currently proposed water-cooling method, the plant would draw 4.4 million gallons of water a day from the Merrimack River.

Lawrence attorney Eugene Patrick McCann, of Manzi & McCann, is a former owner of the Essex Company, a corporation that owns water rights to the Merrimack River from the Hunts Falls in Lowell to the Lawrence dam where the Lawrence Hydroelectric Plant sits.

The Essex Company founded the City of Lawrence through a real estate deal in 1840, in which it acquired land that is now parts of Lawrence, Methuen, Andover, North Andover, McCann says.

An equally ancient company, the Lowell Locks & Canals corporation, owns water rights to the river from Lowell to Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire.

Depending who will own the property for the proposed power plant, the developer may have to pay the Essex Company for water rights.

Neither Tom Favinger, a spokesman for the developer of the Nickel Hill Energy Project, nor John Barton, executive vice president of the Essex Company, returned calls to the *Townsmen* before press time Wednesday.

Ralph Goodno, president of the Merri-

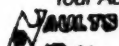
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Witnesses help police snare purse snatcher

By Neil Fater

A heroin addiction drove a Lawrence mother to steal an 87-year-old Andover woman's purse on the day before Thanksgiving, say police.

Police arrested Darlene Johnson, 33, of 31 Farley St., Lawrence, Tuesday and charged her with the recent, unarmed robbery on a person over age 65.

"She wrote out a full confession and admitted all of this, and she was remorseful," says Det. Charlie Heseltine.

The purse snatching occurred in the Shawsheen Plaza parking lot on Nov. 24 ("Police seek holiday purse snatcher," *Townsmen*, Dec. 2).

Andover police credit the work of two witnesses with leading them to Johnson.

The witnesses saw the purse snatching as they entered the plaza, followed Johnson's car to get its license plate, and then returned to the scene to help the elderly woman and call police.

The witnesses gave police a license plate that was just one digit off, and knew the make and color of Johnson's car. Detectives Bill Wallace and Heseltine then had a computer print out 1,200 license plates similar to the one reported by the witnesses. After going through this list by hand, they found a blue, Ford Taurus owned by Johnson.

Johnson was arrested Sunday, Nov. 28, and charged on two warrants, for shoplifting and receiving stolen property, and for driving with a suspended license and leaving the scene of a personal-injury accident.

But she denied any involvement in the purse snatching at that time.

"We originally went (to Johnson's home) and spoke to the husband and he said that she doesn't drive anymore," said Wallace. "Then we had her in last Sunday. She denied being in Andover or having been involved with any robbery the day before Thanksgiving."

But police say that when they

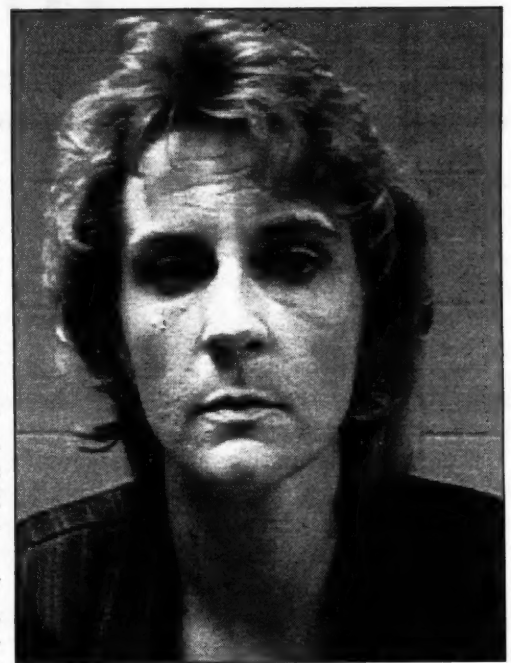
talked to Johnson again Tuesday, she confessed.

"We told her, 'If you had anything to do with it, now is the time to let us know,'" says Wallace. "She told us she has a drug problem and she's never done anything like that before."

As Johnson took the purse from the 87-year-old Andover woman, she had said, "You can't stay here, the police will shoot you." Police said last week they suspected the robber was on drugs because of this.

Johnson's crime carries no minimum sentence, but has a maximum punishment of life in prison, says Det. Sgt. Don Pattullo. He praised the work of his detectives in pursuing this case.

"These guys haven't had a day off since it happened," says Det. Sgt. Don Pattullo. "We put everything else on the back burner because we had to get to the bottom of it."



Darlene Johnson — She confesses, police say.

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Townsmen EDITORIALS

Winner, New England Press Association's Editorial Page Awards 1993, 1995 • Horace Greeley Award for Community Service

'Pay later' is coming

Now is that blessed and happy time of year when we regularly hear the phrase, "Buy now, pay later."

It's a rather seductive pitch, since now is, you know, right now, and later — well later is off sometime in the amorphous future. Sure, sometimes they say "no payments until February," but even that seems like a long enough time so we don't need to think about it, you know, right now.

But, as our parents and financial consultants always tell us, "now" eventually does yield to "later." And that is what is happening in the dry world of municipal budgets here in Andover.

"Buy now" was some time ago, back when voters said yes, yes and yes again to things like a couple of new schools, a new public safety center and various other big-ticket improvements.

There is nothing wrong with major improvements. There was wide agreement that the schools are overcrowded, and that education should be one of the town's top priorities. There was wide agreement that the town was past due for a new public safety center.

But there is a bit of a disconnect from reality if we want to buy all those things, and then complain about paying for them — or as is most frequently the case, complain about the less wealthy in town being able to afford the real estate taxes needed not only just to build those things, but to operate and maintain them.

So voters should start thinking now — right now — about whether they are willing to pay bills that haven't come due yet, but are looming just ahead. In discussions this week, some of the best financial minds in the town concluded that Andover will need a Proposition 2½ override for its operating budget to fund its projected spending habits. That's different from the so-called one-time debt exclusions. This would be permanent.

Yes, it is true, as School Committee Chairman Eric Nadworny pointed out, that some of this is based on projections that haven't occurred yet.

But a simple look at the school budget of past years, with increases well in excess of inflation, should be enough history to show that the need for an override is likely. Simply to operate the two new schools will add a million or more to the budget.

As others have said, this is the price we need to pay to keep Andover excellent.

Probably so. But voters need to consider carefully if they are willing and able to pay for it.

"Pay later" is fast approaching.



Photo by Lisa Adelsberger

Final preparations — Children in the St. Augustine's Cherubim Choir, including, from left, Melissa Larcy, Hayley Finn, Stephanie Serrentino, Melissa Ragonese and Meghan Morris, rehearse with parent Jean Mara for the parish's annual Christmas concert called "2000, Here We Come," at 2 p.m. this Sunday, Dec. 12, at the church, 43 Essex St. The concert will also feature Andover's Mary Ellen Driscoll presenting original songs and longtime favorites.

The silence of the schools speaks volumes



Taylor Armerding

It's not that Central Catholic High School needs yet another defender added to those who have filled two pages of letters to the editor in this week's *Townsmen*, responding to a hopelessly addled excretion from Charles Wettergreen the previous week.

They have done it quite well, most of them with at least a measure of wit and style that is utterly foreign to Wettergreen.

For those of you who missed it, Wettergreen was offended by an advertisement Central placed in these pages promoting the spiritual dimension brought to education there, and to the percentage of graduates who go on to higher education.

He was offended enough to attack the ad, the school, the *Townsmen* and religious education in general in a letter that ran last week.

Nor is this an apology for allowing Wettergreen's rant to be printed in the paper. I've run them before, mis-

erable as they are, and I'll run them again if he's shameless enough to send them. I continue to believe that everyone — everyone — deserves a voice in the local paper.

But what I do think is significant, and what needs saying, is that nowhere on those two pages of letters will you find a voice of response from the Andover School Committee. Not from Schools Superintendent Claudia Bach. Not, most significantly, from the teachers union head Tom Meyers — a Central Catholic grad himself. No disavowal, no explanation — nothing.

That silence is speaking volumes, whether they like it or not. And that is because in this case, it is not just what was said, it is who said it.

This was not a letter from eccentric old Uncle Charlie, who sits off in the corner at family reunions regurgitating bile about whatever is giving him indigestion at the moment, and who everybody just ignores because he's really harmless.

This is Charles Wettergreen, who clearly speaks for more than just himself when he signs his name and adds "English teacher, Andover High School" after it. This is Charles Wettergreen, prominent member of the teacher's union. This is Charles Wettergreen, who is paid from your tax dollars to help shape and educate the adolescent minds of this community.

In the past, when Wettergreen would launch some mangled broad-

side here, usually aimed at us for daring to question some sacred tenet of the gospel of public education according to the teacher's union, I'd hear from kids that Mr. Wettergreen, in spite of this, was really a pretty cool teacher.

Perhaps. But this is not cool. Not cool at all.

It is bad enough that the letters from this English teacher arrive needing to be cleaned up before they can be printed. I'm not talking an occasional typo here and there — everybody is guilty of that, including all of us here at the *Townsmen*. This guy's prose is a grammatical and spelling minefield. One of his students could probably — we hope — do better. He's a walking ad for teacher competency testing.

What is worse, and indefensible in this case, is the ugly tone, the baseless accusations, the incoherent venom aimed at one of the easiest targets around these days — religion. Boy, it takes real courage to attack the Catholic Church at times like this, doesn't it Charles?

Please, let's have no platitudes from within the school system about how important freedom of speech is, and how this letter can be a lesson to students about how even opinions we don't like, and that make us uncomfortable, can lead to constructive dialogue.

(Continued on page 42)

Letters

Was letter an April Fool's joke?

Editor, *Townsmen*:

"Ab duct, v.t. To carry off or lead away (a person) illegally and in secret or by force, esp. to kidnap."

Websters — emphasis added.

I am a graduate of Central Catholic High School, and currently serve on the board of directors of the school. When I first read Charles Wettergreen's letter to the editor ("Central Catholic is trying to 'abduct' AHS students, *Townsmen*, Dec. 2), in which he accused Central Catholic of "abducting" the young men and women of Andover, I thought it was an April Fool's joke. A quick check of my calendar showed that that was not the case.

I then thought that perhaps Mr. Wettergreen had lost a very large wager on the Thanksgiving game, and was using the letters to the editor section of the *Townsmen* to vent some of his frustration. In reality, I am personally offended to be accused of abducting young children.

I thought about responding to his letter on an intellectual level, but frankly did not know where to begin to respond to something that was so fundamentally ridiculous (see above definition of "abduct").

Citizens of Andover, please rest assured that your sons and daughters are safe on the streets of our neighborhoods. There is no abduction going on. You and your children continue to have the complete freedom of choice as to where they would like to be educated.

As to Mr. Wettergreen's comments about public funds being used for private education, I don't believe that was the subject of the Central Catholic ad. However, please keep in mind that if all Andover children who attend private schools (at whatever level) attended the Andover public school system, our real estate taxes would be considerably higher than they are at present.

I sincerely hope that Mr. Wettergreen's views as expressed in his letter are his, and not representative of the Andover educators at large.

Patrick B. Maraghy
3 Buchan Road

Central Catholic responds to letter

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Charles Wettergreen's Dec. 2 letter expresses unfortunate anti-religious sentiments. To assist parents and families in making the most appropriate choice of high school for their children, Central Catholic High School has both the right and the responsibility to advertise the nature of its mission and programs.

To clarify at the outset: Central Catholic does not recruit athletes. Nor is Central Catholic subsidized by tax

No more 'watered-down,' secular religious expression

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Last week the Board of Selectmen voted 5-0 to deny a request to place a Chanukah Menorah on public property. The selectmen made a wise and judicious decision. A Chanukah Menorah or a *chankiah*, as it is correctly called, is an important religious object. While Chanukah celebrates the universal values of religious freedom and tolerance, the act of lighting the *chankiah* is a uniquely religious act that does not belong on public property. As Dr. Larson said, it is a practice best left to one's home or synagogue.

There is no one more committed to interfaith dialogue than I. I sincerely believe that understanding leads to respect, which yields tolerance and harmony in a community. The non-Jewish citizens of Andover and beyond have always been welcome in my synagogue, just as the lay and reli-

gious leaders of every single church in Andover have warmly embraced me. Learning about other faiths leads to a greater appreciation of our own sacred traditions. However, one does not get a very deep or serious glimpse into the beauty and meaning of a religion when the sacred symbols of that faith are reduced to mere "decorations" on the holiday landscape.

There are all too many distractions in our lives, most of which draw us away from what is truly important, family, faith, and an inviolable set of moral values. We do not need any more watered-down secular expressions of religion, we need to be serious and deliberate about our faith, and where better to pursue this goal than in our churches, synagogues, mosques and mostly our homes.

Rabbi Robert S. Goldstein
Temple Emanuel
7 Haggetts Pond Road

dollars.

In an age marked by spiritual hunger, Central Catholic exercises an opportunity unique to Catholic schools: helping students gain fuller access to the rich Catholic treasury of resources for developing a meaningful life of faith. While religious education takes place primarily in religion classes, Christian ethics and values are reflected across the curriculum. Opportunities are regularly provided for worship, prayer, reflection, and participation in projects designed to serve our neighbors in need. In this way, the roots of faith, tolerance, love, and responsibility to the least favored have the opportunity to deepen in the lives of our students.

Central Catholic was founded in 1935 to serve immigrants and the sons of immigrants from Europe, French-speaking Canada, and the Middle East. Today, while educating boys and girls descended from this original audience, we also serve the current wave of immigrants from the Caribbean, Latin America, Asia and elsewhere.

Because the demand for admission to our school exceeds capacity, not every applicant can be accepted. Yet Central Catholic has deliberately renounced the temptation to create an elite, "hand-picked" student body. Our school embraces students with differing degrees of academic readiness from diverse ethnic, linguistic, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds.

In particular, Central Catholic is heavily committed to the inner city of Lawrence and to youngsters with limited economic resources. Naturally, we take unabashed pride in the extent to which our graduates — regardless of

their different backgrounds — are succeeding in college and in life.

In their October article in the educational journal *Phi Delta Kappan*, James Youniss and Jeffrey A. McLellan wrote that Catholic schools are best understood as "complementary to — not replacements for — public schools." Central Catholic High School is honored to share the responsibility for educating the children of the Merrimack Valley along with our colleagues in public, private, and other Catholic schools.

Brother Thomas P. Long, FMS
President
Central Catholic High School

'The ranting of a very angry person'

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Anyone with a whit of intelligence or common sense can see that Charles Wettergreen's letter regarding Central Catholic's attempt "... to abduct" Andover students is absurd. It should be taken for what it is: the ranting of a very angry person.

Mr. Wettergreen laments that Central has plucked students "from the Andover tree." Perhaps he should check his facts: Central's current 10th-grade class contains only two students who attended Andover public schools. (The enrollment in the other three classes is similar.)

He, also, states that the ad "is an insult to the intelligence of Andover residents." Does he honestly believe that a single ad placed in the *Townsmen* could be so compelling as to per-

suade a parent to enroll a child in any school?

On the other hand, I want to thank Mr. Wettergreen for helping educate our children. (Even this letter has a silver lining.) My wife and I have always tried to expose our children to the dangers of narrow-mindedness, and the evils of prejudice. We no longer need to find examples in history: the "No Irish Need Apply" signs in Boston early this century, or the "White Only" and "Colored" signs during the Jim Crow and Civil Rights eras. Mr. Wettergreen has provided us with an excellent example in our own hometown newspaper.

Two years ago, our eighth-grade son announced that he wanted to enroll in Central. This was a surprise because we had always assumed he would attend Andover High. Like most concerned parents, we decided to examine both schools. At the time, we concluded that it was a matter of personal preference, and that neither school had a significant advantage over the other.

We now see that we were mistaken; Central has a definite advantage. After all, if our son attended Andover High, there is the frightening possibility that he might get Mr. Wettergreen for a teacher.

Rick Elias
4 Tallyho Lane

An 'offensive' attack on Central Catholic

Editor, *Townsmen*:

As an Andover resident and Central grad ('93), I am offended by the letter that attacks Central Catholic High School for "exaggerations and distortions" in recruiting, and that assigns a "holier than thou" position to Central in its unnecessarily defensive argument.

The author's misplaced focus offers a cutthroat business model for education, in which Central Catholic leverages its religiosity and college acceptance rate to "abduct" Andover's students.

The author projects his irrelevant model onto Central Catholic, incorrectly interpreting the schools recruiting efforts through his own lens of negative competition. I submit that there is no room in the educational system for an "us vs. them" attitude between schools, when the national agenda for improving tests scores and education levels vs. foreign countries remains stagnant.

As suggested, I viewed the Nov. 24 ad, and found the assigned attitudes and implications of Central Catholic undeserving. The fact is that Central Catholic has every right to tap the community on the shoulder and say, "Hello. Here is who we are and what we do." This is not accomplished through "in-your-face" media tactics. A small ad in a community newspaper hardly qualifies as "in-your-face." Has Central hired

(Continued on page 10)

LETTERS

(Continued from page 9)

Hill, Holliday or Arnold for a guerrilla-style campaign? Are they running local cable ads or setting up a booth at Andover High?

Andover High School is handed its students while Central Catholic must ask for them. In addition, it must ask its students to pay to attend the school. Because of this, it is essential that the school provide a clear benefit over free, government-provided education. Would this ad work? "Send your daughter or son to Central Catholic. Why not pay money to get just about the same education you would get free at Andover High?"

We are not dealing in this case with a David vs. Goliath. Andover will never have a poor school system. There is too much wealth in the community, too much clout within the School Committee, too many caring and effective faculty and staff members to allow the school a downturn.

Relative to many other school systems, its challenges are those born of success and prosperity, not budget troubles and ineffective faculty. Thus, Andover is capable of producing quality graduates if the focus remains on the students. Less attention should be paid to what Andover High does not have, and more attention paid to the potential of its current resources (i.e., the students).

If I were an Andover High student, I would be questioning the letter and asking, "Am I not good enough?" In the end, satisfaction should come from the knowledge that each student receives his or her education. With this in mind, preoccupation with which school system provides that education seems counter-productive.

The athletics issue should not be reduced to a simple win-loss records analysis. The rivalry between Central Catholic and Andover has produced some of the best athletic contests of recent memory and the life lessons athlete-scholars are taught from such an excellent, well-mannered rivalry should not be traded for a "level playing field." The playing field is level in what really matters: courage, effort and personal growth. In general, both schools consistently field well-coached, talented teams that are successful on many levels.

Finally, Central Catholic does not "promise the moon." It promises to provide a high-quality education with attention to the students' spirituality — the spiritual end Andover High is *not* allowed to provide. Some parents and students wish to circumvent this ban, and Central is happy to provide spiritual guidance in accordance with its mission.

To suggest that in fulfilling this mission Central Catholic attempts to undermine area schools and stockpile talent belies the schools' beliefs and undermines the educational process. I believe that Andover is also interested in "nurturing the whole person" and has a "talented, caring faculty," but Central Catholic needs to tell the com-

munity this directly because it is not a default educational option. For a school to take out an ad in a community newspaper to promote its values does not inherently imply the community's school lacks those values, and I restate that someone offering this opinion has bought into an outlook that doesn't belong in the educational system.

Interpreting "market share" battles and displaying the attitudes surrounding them are best left to Coke and Pepsi.

Ryan Hanson
15 Pasho St.

Letter might make more choose Central

Editor, *Townsmen*:

As a non-Christian, unaffiliated with Central Catholic in any capacity, I was literally taken aback and appalled by Mr. Wettergreen's denigration of Central Catholic High School.

There are three points I'd like to make in response to Mr. Wettergreen's letter.

1. It seems clear that, to Mr. Wettergreen, tolerance, respect for others and celebrating diversity of opinion/beliefs don't apply to traditional Christians or a respected Catholic learning institution.

It deeply troubles me that a public high school teacher would launch such a vitriolic letter openly impugning Catholics and traditional Christians. The seemingly ceaseless attacks on these people nationally are today the politically correct "in" thing to do, and they must end.

2. Is this letter a reflection of Mr. Wettergreen's personal views or representative of the teachers' union?

When Mr. Wettergreen mentions "public support to private and charter schools," he obfuscates whether his issues are political or personal.

Is the concern here nothing more than NEA money and jobs?

3. If Mr. Wettergreen instead devoted his energies into making Andover High School an optimal learning institution, wouldn't this dissipate any authentic or perceived threat of Andover kids choosing to go to a private or parochial school such as Central?

Why would parents choose to spend thousands per year at substantial family sacrifice to attend Central when, through their taxes, they could attend Andover High for free?

In closing, Mr. Wettergreen's letter was far more effective and positive public relations for Central than any ad they could have possibly run.

I believe his letter will serve as a catalyst encouraging many to seriously consider Central as the high school of choice for their kids.

William J. Josephson
Salem Street

Dr. Mike was one of the best

Editor, *Townsmen*:

It was with great sadness that I learned of Dr. Michael J. Arakelian's passing (*Townsmen*, Nov. 18 and 24).

In 1997, Dr. Mike and a doctor friend of his, Dr. Fred (first name), a well-known surgeon, took one of my harmonica courses offered by the DCS of Andover.

Dr. Mike was one of my best students. Moreover, his kindness and great sense of humor were omnipresent. I still remember his trying to impress upon one of my teen-age students the importance of serious learning.

Dr. Mike will not be forgotten: As in the past, I will continue to cite Dr. Mike as proof that age is no barrier to learning.

Leo Rute
Andover

Selectmen flunked manager evaluation

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Through the past couple of weeks, if not months, I have followed the public evaluation of our town manager. Recognizing the powers of "freedom of information," state law and/or town charter, it appeared most peculiar the lack of professional integrity in which this public evaluation was conducted. It seems as though the manager recognizes his job description far better than the Board of Selectmen recognizes their own. In Management 101, the board gets an "F." In the court of public decency, shame on you! If individuals on the board can't, or worse, won't do their job, please let us know before election day and we'll conduct your evaluation by finding someone who can.

Kevin M. Cuff, MPA
265 Beacon St.

Be consistent on holiday decorations

Editor, *Townsmen*:

As a Jewish resident of Andover, I am in agreement with the selectmen that no religious displays should be allowed on town property. The line separating church and state seems to be getting very blurry in this country, and I am pleased that our local government wishes to abide by the Constitution.

But I am a bit confused as to how the wreaths on Old Town Hall and the "holiday" lights downtown, which were pointed out by Mr. Stapczynski, cannot be perceived as pertaining to a particular religious holiday. I think many people would disagree with John Hess's comment that these decorations are "secular." I think Mr. Hess would be hard-pressed to locate non-Christian homes in the area that have these adornments on them.

If the local merchants wish to pay for these decorations in order to attract shoppers to their businesses, as Mr. Hess says these lights are intended to do, then they should pay for them to be erected and illuminated, as the merchants will be the direct beneficiaries of increased shopping activity.

Our town government, which Mr. Larsen claims is concerned about the separation of church and state, should not be in the business of mounting

such displays. I quite agree with the decision the selectmen made, but they should remember to be consistent.

Elizabeth Hamblet
52 Pine St.

Forget Boston, go to the Nutcracker here

Editor, *Townsmen*:

I was so proud to live in Andover last Saturday night. I attended the Albany Berkshire Ballet's excellent performance of the *Nutcracker*, which was held for the first time at the Collins Center. So many people from other towns commented on what a wonderful facility we have.

I did not have a child in the show but went because we have driven to Weston for the last five years just to see this professional performance. The level of dancing, beautiful sets, amusing characters, and wonderful interactions with the children who were in the show were only enhanced by the large stage, great lighting and super sound system available at the Collins Center.

Forget the traffic, parking, expense, and hassles of going to Boston for a professional performance of the *Nutcracker* — look for the show next year right here in our backyard. It is a terrific show, your child will dance with professional dancers, and you will be creating wonderful, lifelong memory for you and your child.

Judith Holt
120 Wildwood Road

A tax 'gift' to business

Editor, *Townsmen*:

All of our property tax bills went up last week not because of new schools, fire trucks, or to support our youth or senior citizens. It went up because of the Board of Selectmen's decision to give an early holiday gift to business in the form of a tax cut at the expense of the homeowners. It is true. Read all about it on the front page of the Dec. 2 *Andover Townsmen*.

By a unanimous vote, our selectmen tried to fix something that wasn't broken — a tax system that was put into place years ago in an attempt to try to balance the tax bite between business and homeowners. The selectmen cut a 30 percent surcharge to 26 percent and WE, the homeowners, are funding or paying for this gift to business.

Is this cut going to happen again next year? An annual event between Thanksgiving and Hanukkah and Christmas? Should we put this tax cut on our holiday annual shopping list — Old Spice for Dad and a tax cut for business? If this cut is going to be an annual event, we'd better wake up and vote for elected officials that recognize the burden of the homeowners working longer and longer hours trying to make ends meet. Can we roll this vote and tax hike back? I hope so.

It seems Jim Cuticchia was the only voice for homeowners at the meeting, asking the selectmen not to change the tax structure. He spoke of town support to encourage business growth (to

(Continued on page 18)

Education

Master teachers at AHS

Two Andover High School teachers earned Master Teacher status from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards this month as part of a nationwide effort to recruit and keep people in the teaching profession with the help of mentors.

Melissa Scheve has taught English at Andover High School for six years.

"I didn't know quite what I was getting myself into when I applied," says Scheve. The application process, which costs \$2,000, requires lengthy documentation of teaching practices including videotapes of classes and samples of student work.

Teachers also must pass an exam that tests them on their subject matter and how they use it.

Scheve estimates it must have taken an extra 300 hours of work this year, but is glad to be an official mentor for other teachers.

She recalls her mentor, Craig Ewing, an English teacher at a private school where Scheve

taught in Kansas. Scheve was once a student of Ewing before she got a job in the same school where he taught. He then volunteered to be her mentor, she says. His sense of humor and ability to reach students of all types inspired her to become a teacher, Scheve says.

"He had a drive to be rigorous and passionate about what he did each day," she says.

While Bill Lussier is not teaching this year to fulfill his duties as Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, he plans to work on developing a formal mentor program for the Andover school system.

Scheve is one of six English teachers in the state to be certified, and Lussier is one of three history teachers in Massachusetts to earn the certification.

Scheve and Lussier both won \$2,000 grants to pay for their application process, and could receive a bonus of \$5,000 a year for mentoring other teachers under the federal program, Scheve says.



Photo by Lisa Adelsberger

Building blocks — Instructional Assistant Betsy Spiegel works on a math activity with a few members of Laura Tenero's first-grade class at the Shawsheen School.

Assistants in demand

By Rebecca Lipchitz

The need for instructional assistants was a common theme in recent school requests made through School Improvement Council reports.

"The need for them keeps expanding," says Superintendent of Schools Dr. Claudia Bach.

Principals say that is because of new state requirements and other changes in education.

According to School Department Business Manager Bernie Tuttle, Andover's regular education program has 38 instructional assistants, whose hours equal just over 26 full-time employees. Including assistants specifically assigned to work with special needs students, the town employs 115 people, whose hours are equal to more than 90 full-time employees.

If Andover followed the state formula that recommends a certain number of assistants per number of students, the town would have fewer assistants, Tuttle says, but the changes in instruction and in some cases, larger class sizes, mean classroom teachers need more help.

Andover employs several types of instructional assistants, most of whom work part-time. Most work at elementary schools, and divide their part-time hours among several classes. Some assistants working with students with special needs are assigned to work individually with a student, while others work in small groups.

The schools also employ three full-time media assistants at the Andover High School library, a technology assistant at each middle school and at the high school, a health assis-

tant at the high school and at West Elementary.

Tuttle says the duties of assistants varies from school to school, depending on the needs.

Assistant duties often include support of the classroom in delivering instruction and preparing materials, supervising students at recess and during lunch periods, and extra-curricular enrichment programs in some cases.

While instructional assistants are beneficial in larger classrooms, they are not a substitute for a teacher says Charlie Friel, principal of West Elementary School, Andover's largest elementary school.

When class sizes begin to get too large, Friel says he puts in a request for another teacher, rather than for an assistant.

But assistants are sometimes needed to manage larger classes, Tuttle says, as schools run out of room to create new classes, "no matter how many teachers we can squeeze out of the budget."

Instructional assistants are not required to have college degrees, administrators say, but almost all of Andover's assistants do, and many have masters degrees or teacher certification but don't want the responsibility or full-time commitment of teaching.

Friel says many of Andover's instructional assistants are later hired by Andover schools as teachers.

Brenda O'Brien, assistant principal at the Bancroft Elementary School, worked with

(Continued on page 12)



Photo by Lisa Adelsberger

Master class — AHS teachers David Lussier (left), the Massachusetts Teacher of the Year 2000, and Melissa Scheve, each earned Master Teacher status from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards after a competitive application process.

Schools see increasing demand for instructional assistants

(Continued from page 11)

Principal Norah McCarthy to develop a type of professional development program for assistants. Every other Friday, Bancroft assistants can attend a presentation or enrichment program, often with a guest speaker, discussing academics, management strategies in classrooms or classes in technology.

"Our goal is to enhance the role of the assistant to be a true extension of our professional staff. We're using assistants as support in our classrooms, and to meet the diverse instructional needs of our populace," O'Brien says.

McCarthy says assistants are needed to help classroom teachers address the broad spectrum of students' interest and ability levels.

At Bancroft, when Learning Specialist Barbara Noga identifies children who need extra help or more challenging work, an instructional assistant is often charged with working with a particular student or group of students to address the need.

The effectiveness of their assistants, McCarthy says, comes from their qualified nature, and from the practice of including assistants in

team meetings with teachers. Shawsheen School Principal Terry Murphy says instructional assistants were more prevalent before Proposition 2 1/2 led to much corner-cutting in education.

The role of assistants is crucial, Murphy says, particularly at the kindergarten level.

"We've lost a lot of help that we had in previous years," Murphy says.

Andover parent mulls a run for School Committee

Andover parent and school volunteer Bill Pennington is contemplating a run for School Committee next year.

School Committee members Skip Eccles and Tim McCarron are up for reelection in March. Neither McCarron nor Eccles has said yet whether they will seek reelection.

Pennington says he is gathering information about how much of a time commitment it would require, and if his role as a school volunteer would change.

Pennington says running for School Committee has been a long-time goal.

"I think it's just a matter of time before I (run). I just have to find the right time," he says.

Pennington is a member of the South School PTO, where his two children are students. He also worked closely with parents who created a charter school proposal last year.

Working on the charter school proposal helped him understand some of the details involved in running school, Pennington says, and how the Andover school system runs.

A charter school proposal must prove that a school's educational philosophy is significantly different from the local school system in order to gain state approval.

The charter school would have been based upon the Hirsch goal-setting curriculum that requires students to complete a certain specific set of lessons each year.

Pennington says he is most concerned about the lack of space in Andover schools.

"It's been overcrowded at Doherty (Middle School) for the last five years, and will be for the next two years. For some students, their whole middle-school experience will be in an overcrowded school. To me that's really intolerable, and it's been going on too long," Pennington says.

He also believes the School Committee could use another representative who has children in the school system.

Of the current board members, Chairman Eric Nadworny has children who now attend Andover Schools.

Pennington says he has also helped run other local campaigns in Andover and his former hometown of North Kingston, Rhode Island. He has lived in Andover for more than 13 years.


Pennington says he will weigh his decision carefully.

"Anything I do, I like to do it well. I don't want to make the commitment unless it makes sense for me and my family, and the people of Andover," he says.

— Rebecca Lipchitz

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Andover High students named to first-term honor roll

The following students were named to the Andover High School honor roll for Term I.

Class of 2000

HIGH HONORS

Anson, Britta Marie
Bernstein, Jenna Barton
Boettcher, Erica Lynn
Chen, Caroline Pei-Hsin
Contos, Alexis Frances

Daniels, Siobhan Marie
Garvin, Amy Catherine
Grabowski, Juliet Ann
Graham, Helen Zerihun
Greene, Jessica Sara
Hartwell, Lindsay Elizabeth
Hastings, Zoe Vasconcellos
James, Allison Kate
Jordan, Kevin Michael
Keefe, Brianne Paula
Keith, Ellen Virginia
Konjoian, Matthew David
Kremer, Emma Alexandra
Landry, Siobhan Brendt
Lapsa, Andrew Paul

McElfresh, Emily Joyous
Mehta, Nishant Pirakin
Morando, Jacqueline May
Murray, Caitlin Patricia
Nourse, Sarah Hall
Okamoto, Bryan Erik
Page, Timothy Francis
Paone, Dean Lawrence
Pearson, Lindsey Michelle
Powers, David Joseph
Ravens, Lindsay Anne
Recupero, Stephanie Marie
Santos, Thiago Werpel P.
Saunders, Alyssa Tami
Schrader, Laura Maureen

Selima, Linda Marie
Shapiro, Judd Louis
Silevitch, Adam Richard
Spollett, Sarah Linda
Stowe, Dorothy Jane
Sutliff, Todd Dudley
Teves, Darlene Mary
Tharisiyi, Saroj Maria
Trumbore, Sarah Ann
Tulip, Erin Badh
Wallace, Michael Remick
Weiner, Amy Suzanne
Welch, Elizabeth Aileen
HONORS
Adams, Erik John

Ahern, Kara Beth
Alexander, Audra Rose
Ardini, Mary Abigail
Axelrod, Amy Lynn
Bancroft, Philip David
Bateson, Colleen Marie
Baxter, Stephen Albert
Beechinor, Matthew James
Beliveau, Michael Alexander
Bellistri, Andrew Frank
Berger, Alexander John
Bevacqua, Christine E.
Blais, Nathan Robert
Bolotina, Dasha Darina
Boulanger, Edmond Paul

AHS PAC meeting is Monday

A general business meeting of the Andover High School Parent Advisory Council will be held Monday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m. in the high school media center.

Brennan, Gregory John
Brodsky, Richard Bryan
Brown, Christopher Wallace
Buchholz, Spencer David
Camarillo, Napua Maluhia
Caselle, Alexis Ann

Castignetti, Danielle Marie
Chiaraluce, Cara Ann
Coates, Joshua Churchill
Collings, Erin Allison Mary
Collins, Philip Andrew

(Continued on page 14)

LUNCH MENUS

Here's what's for lunch at Andover public schools the week of Dec. 13-17:

Elementary schools

Monday: Beef teriyaki over rice, pizza, french toast sticks with ham, vegetable, fruit, Jell-O, milk.

Tuesday: Egg McMuffin with ham and cheese, pizza stick with soft pretzel, baked chicken nuggets with puffs, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Wednesday: Nachos with salsa and cheese, pizza, french toast sticks with sausage, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Thursday: Rotini with marinara sauce, pizza stick with soft pretzel, baked chicken nuggets with puffs, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Friday: Chicken McSchool, pizza, hot dog with fries, vegetable, fruit, apple crisp, milk.

Doherty Middle School

Monday: Steak and cheese sub, baked chicken nuggets, stuffed crust pizza, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Tuesday: Egg McMuffin with fries, two hot dogs on roll, chicken McSchool, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Wednesday: Baked ham with mashed potatoes, baked chicken nuggets, stuffed crust pizza, vegetable, fruit, apple crisp, milk.

Thursday: Rotini with marinara sauce, cheeseburger with fries, nachos with cheese and salsa, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Friday: Roast turkey dinner, baked chicken nuggets, stuffed crust pizza, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Secondary schools

Monday: Chicken, broccoli and ziti, pasta, ham or bologna sub, stuffed crust pizza, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Tuesday: Egg McMuffin, stuffed crust pizza, pasta, ham or bologna sub, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Wednesday: Baked ham with potatoes, stuffed crust pizza, pasta, ham or bologna sub, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Thursday: Fish sticks with fries, pasta, stuffed crust pizza, ham or bologna sub, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Friday: Ravioli with roll, stuffed crust pizza, pasta, ham or bologna sub, vegetable, fruit, milk.

Menus subject to change.

**School news is due by
5 p.m. Friday**

WHAT'S UP is on page 43 this week

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There are many methods available in dentistry today to reduce a patient's anxiety and enhance comfort during treatment. Having confidence and trust in your dentist is also an important aspect of feeling comfortable at dental visits. If you do not have a dentist and it's been awhile since your last checkup, we are welcoming new patients. You'll find our methods completely up to date, our staff friendly and experienced, and our services expert and compassionate. Please call 475-2431, 296 Lowell Street, Rt 133 (with easy access off Rt 93).

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AHS HONORS

(Continued from page 13)

Connors, Elizabeth Jane
Cooper, Douglas Joseph
Cordima, David Francis
Corey, Allison Lynn
Costello, Caitlin Elizabeth
Coy, Lindsey Marie
Crawford, Scott Ripley
Crowley, Brian Joseph
Dalis, Lauren Virginia
Dallon, Melissa Lynn
Danforth, Jennifer Lynn
Danis, Michelle Lynn
Deangelo, Brian Steven
Defrancisco, Jessica Ann
Detterman, Jenny Beth
Donoghue, Kelley Anne
Dowd, Michael Patrick
Doyle, Niall Kelley
Dynes, Joshua L. A.
Eamley, Elizabeth Adrienne
Eckel, Robert Andrew
Feola, Gianni M.
Filbin, Catherine Duteple
Fitzgerald, Andrew Thomas
Fitzpatrick, Tara Jean

Fitzsimmons, Terrence
Fontanella, Stephen John
Frost, Cody James
Gaimari, Angela Frances
Gallant, Jaclyn Marie
Galluzzo, Brian Joseph
Ganek, Ilyssa Michele
Garick, Joshua Nathaniel
Giles, Michael Sean
Gordon, Andrea Beth
Gosselin, Brian John
Greer, Rachel Sarah
Gregory, Charles Nichols
Griffin, Tricia Marie
Gurry, Kate Elizabeth
Guruprasad, Shambhavi
Gustin, James Francis
Hackett, Gregory Allen
Hauck, Alexander Hendrix
Hess, Kevin Andrew
Hoerner, Amanda Emily
Hsieh, Efan
Hsu, Jenny May
Huggins, John Jeffrey
Hughes, Peter Kimball
Jacobs, Andrew Benjamin

Jacobson, Morgan Nicole
Jang, Woo-Je
Jette, Kristina Heim
Johnson, Kenneth Collard
Kaczynski, Michael Mannix
Kassan, Alexis Ruth
Kearins, Kristin Lee
Keene, Tyler Robinson
Kim, Tae
King, Christopher Joseph
Klein, Jordan Samuel
Krasik, David
Lakow, Jonathan David
Langlais, Melissa Mae
Lawton, Sean Michael
Leary, Michele Ann
Lentz, Christine Noel
Libby, Matthew Walter
Lier, Christopher Edward
Lier, Maryka Denise
Liu, Stephen Yonann
Mackin, Scott Jamison
Maclaren, Fair Rowan
Maltzman, Sarah Emily
Mason, David William
Massihzadegan, Setarreh
McGuire, Erin Ashley
McArthur, Alison Marley
McCabe, Patrick Edward
McCauley, Kyle Folschild
McClain, Katina Marie

McGrath, Katharine Anne
McMahon, Rebecca B.
Meagher, Michael Joseph
Meagher, Thomas William
Micheline, Daniel Louis
Mickey, Jill Lynn
Miminos, Alexis Athena
Moffitt, Susan Leigh
Morrison, Samuel Benjamin
Morrissey, Christopher
Munroe, Alison Leigh
Mumane, Charles Henry
Mumane, Patrick Joseph
Nathan, Jillian Liz
O'Connell, Deborah Lee
O'Connell, Richard Edward
O'Neill, Kristin Lynn
Oppenheim, Jill Elizabeth
Page, Thomas Richard
Paone, Brian Anthony
Patti, Robin Danielle
Plummer, Christopher J.
Pogorzelski, Anika Marie
Quinn, Jay Paget
Rabbani, Sarah
Rantilla, Robert Nelson
Redding, Jillian Lee
Reddy, Gade V.
Rice, Emily Elizabeth
Riera, Linsey Ann
Riordan, Marguerite Gayle

Rocca, Jeffrey James
Roldan, Elizabeth Suzanne
Rouse, Rebecca Jane
Ruma, Joy Maria
Russo, James Joseph
Russo, Mark Peter
Ryan, Andrew
Salini, Christian Andre
Santiago, Luis Antonio
Shaer, Matthew Paul
Sharma, Yamini
Sheldon, Richard William
Shepherd, David Roy
Shkolnik, Alexander David
Simari, Christopher John
Slavin, Ryan Barrett
Snipes, Shakiya Eshan
Spiller, Adam David
Spies, Leah Marie
Stamm, Gregory
Stavropoulos, Nicole Marie
Sullivan, Christopher Arthur
Sussman, Dana Gale
Sweeney, Kristin Rose
Swift, Jason Jeffrey
Tardugno, Charles Robert
Taylor, Emily Clare
Tebbetts, Erica Catherine
Tiwari, Nathan Rajesh
Traynor, Brittnay Lauren
Turbett, Adam Donald

Tylus, Lynne Ann
Varley, Stephanie Anne
Vining, Anna Theresa
Webb, Marigold Silver
Wittbold, John Alexander
Wolfe, Marissa Ann
Yang, Angeline Jen

Class of 2001

HIGH HONORS

Adelman, Kimberly Brown
Ahern, Brendan Harvey
Anderson, Michael Paul
Araujo, Susannah Marie
Bindman, Jessica Sarah
Bouchard, Brock Ryan
Brickley, Melissa Marie
Buckley, Katharine Rice
Camelio, Amanda Mary
Caplan, Alex Ross
Caverly, Christopher Dyer
Cline, Jennifer Elise
Cohen-Iveson, Brittany Ann
Collier, Melissa
Daly, Erin Cuffe
Davis, Benjamin John
Davis, Nicole Alyssa
Driscoll, Elizabeth Maura
Dugan, Katherine Baffi
Fallon, Mary Kathleen

Filbin, Robert William
Galebach, Timothy Stephen
Gianaris, J. Courtney
Gorelik, Marina
Grabowski, Rose Anna
Guo, Meng
Hibino, Stephen Yosh
Hough, Catherine Mary
Kane, Jennifer Quigley
Karfunkel, Robin Woocher
Kennedy, Cara-Marie Marie
Kim, James
Koeninger, Daniel
Leahy, Michelle Diane
Lee, Chieh-Yin MNM
Leitermann, Olivia
Lothrop, Maureen Cullen
Mackenzie, Nathan Paul
Magnan, Justin Phillip
Maki, Yutaka
Mathias, Shaila Teresa
Matsuki, Megumi
McCumber, Lynne Meredith
McDade, Melissa Honor
McLaughlin, Tommy John
Mirza, Nida
Park, Andrew Hyung-Eun
Pfeil, Emily Carol
Pierce, Stephanie Lee
Roda, Richard Americo
Schade, Nicholas Benjamin
Shaw, Melanie Beth
Simili, Caitlin Elizabeth
Stearns, John Ryan
Timko, Andrew Michael
Tsong, On Kin
Ventura, Kira Naomi
Volinski, Jeffrey Michael
Weiner, Brett Adam
Wholey, David Griffin
Wolk, Rebecca Ann
Woo, Caitlin Susanne
Young, Robin Lynne
Zuena, Erin Elizabeth

HONORS

Adams, Chelsey Leigh
Adams, Gabriel Seth
Adams, Leslie Michelle
An, Jessica Grace
Andersen, Kristen JoAnne
Annese, Jennifer Marie
Antaya, Michael Paul
Ataide, Jennifer Lyn
Ataide, Stephanie Ann
Aufiero, Thomas James
Axelrod, Kerri Lynn
Ayoub, James Carl
Baggeroer, Mark Daniel
Baletsa, Steven Gregory
Berger, Nicholas Daniel
Bolster, Thomas Ian
Borden, Amy J.
Busby, Jennifer Elizabeth
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Cataldo, Erica Germano
Chabot, Michael Paul
Champion, J. Alexander
Chang, Timothy Adam
Chen, Nunu
Chien, Sky Ta
Christiano, Gina Marie
Chu, Janice Shana May
Chuang, April Kuang-Wei
Ciruso, Joy Teresa
Clifton, Reed Alan
Conlon, Courtney Clair
Conn, Nina Anne
Costello, Anthony Michael
Couture, Elizabeth Ann
Couture, Kelly
Crossley, Vivienne C.
Cuevas, Tyina Lynne
Currier, Melissa Jean
Daley, Patrick William
Dascoli, Derek Dominic
Dasilva, Michael Joseph
Davis, Alexander Michael
Day, Roderick Utgoff
Deering, Joseph Patrick
Delaney, Matthew Patrick
Deleo, Gregory James
Demarco, Leo Alexis
Dennis, Corey Mark
Divincenzo, Melissa
Domigan, Ryan Cotter
Donahue, Ellen Margaret
Ellis, Megan
Espiritu, Katrina

Eulie, Evan Kenneth
Feeney, Brandi Lynne
Feinberg, Amy Beth
Feola, Marisa G.
Ferrier, Andrew David
Fink, Jessica Susan
Fish, Stephanie Jeanne
Floreen, Anna Elizabeth
Friedman, Garrett Matthew
Fuhr, Gretchen Rae
Fung, Renee Win-Yan
Gaines, Shawn Frederick
Gardner, Adam Stone
Gardner, Jonathan George
Gatlin, Brandon Travis
Geldart, Rachel Lauren
Gerstein, Millie Rebecca
Gillis, Shannon Lee
Graham, Stephen Arthur
Groff, Peter Endicott
Ha, Christine Soojung
Hadley, Michael Russell
Hagopian, Lindsey Ann
Hamilton, Iain Andrew
Hamilton, Michael McCabe
Hargadon, Ashley Evans
Hayes, Ryan Martin
Hemenway, Holly Diana
Herlihy, Amy Marie
Hitchins, Amanda Kate
Huang, Michael Howjin
Hughes, Daniel William
Hwang, Ji Young
Hylton, Melissa Susan
Ibe, Ogechi Akunna
Issa, Keith Alan
Iworsley, Joy Katherine
Jee, Christopher Jinsoo

Jones, Matthew Alexander
Kalaw, Crystal Joan
Kapelson, Lauren Jayne
Kamik, Rucha Ashutosh
Katsikis, Flora
Kessler, Felix Fritjof
Kessler, Nils Hendrick
Kim, Sora Jennifer
Klarman, Lee Brewer
Klayman, Elizabeth J.
Konjoian, Brett Bedros
Krey, Christoph Edward
Krieger, Alexa Ruth
Labarre Toni Lynne
Lafranchi, Richard Anthony
Lin, Michelle Hsing-Ye
Lockhart, Emily Grace
Mackay, Sean Paul
Maloney, Jonathan Richard
Mann, Jillian Eileen
Martel, Adam Richard
Martin, Erik Andrew
McKain, Katie Allyson
McNabb, Aaron John
Mertes, Laura Michelle
Michelinie, James William
Miliotis, George Marcus
Miller, Kyle George
Moran, Dennis Vincent
Mullen, Kathryn Noreen
Nardone, Paul Louis
Nichols, Leslie Janet
Nolan, Daniel Patrick
O'Brien, Kerrien Kiley
Ofria, Jonathan Woodward
Ongondo, Owino Achieng
Palumbo, Dominick Michael
Patel, Sheena
Pelletier, Jason Michael
Pelletier, Nicholas William
Perry, Adam Charles
Perry, Erin Colleen

Petersen, Diana Carole
Rainen, David Stein
Reef, Joshua Samuel
Rillahan, Casey Michael
Ristuccia II, John Michael
Robinson, Adam Kent
Rose, Matthew Allen
Rosenberg, David
Rosensweig, Matthew Adler
Roy, Patrick Matthew
Schellhaudt, Lauren Victoria
Schofield, Hillary Barron
Sermos, Caitlin Elizabeth
Shanahan, Michael C.
Shea, Dustin Timothy
Shepard, Kevin Patrick
Sherman, James Andrew
Shurman, Alison Leah
Smaglia, Christine Anne
Soo Hoo, Claudia Jin
Stolberg, Kaitlin Elizabeth
Stone, Laura Diana
Sullivan, Nicholas Joseph
Sullivan, Patrick Burke
Taylor, Jessica Sara
Tisbert, Lisa Lynn
Toland, Sean Michael
Toyoda, Hiroyuki Bennett
Trageser, Vern Martin
Traub, Taylor Marie
Troutman, Ashley Ann
Tuman, Naomi Carol
Tyler, Tamsin Elizabeth
Upton, Bethany Erin
Vallabh, Neel

Vallera, Jeffrey Robert
Venkatesh, Mohini
Vincent, Joshua
Wallace, Kellie Ann
Walsh, Keri Marie
Wen, Eugene Shanyoi
Yee, Melissa Yingling
Yen, Lesley Lynne
Yurko, Andrew Joseph

Gostanian, Alexander R.
Gregory, Oliver George
Griswold, Sarah Elyse
Hass, Rebecca Labrie
Hill, Kaitlin Olivia
Hough, Geraldine Mary
Huang, Fei
Jennings, Aurora Grace
Kalaw, Michelle Lee
Keough, Matthew Thomas
Kichorowsky, Anna Leontine
Klarman, Molly Brewer
Kleinman, Michael Scott
Larsen, Luke Frederick
Lee, Mu Sun
Lentz, Daniel Robert
Lieberman, Troy Kilman
Lindsay, Christine Anne
Liversidge, Kezia Craig
Macomber, Ryan Matthew
Marvin, Julianne
Mason, Andrew Karl
Maxey, Peter Reza
Meehan, Caitlin Ann
Milley, Jessica MacKenzie
Monaco, Angela Rose
Mossack, Michael Konrad
Murphy, Katharine Lynn
Nelson, Jenna Marie
Nitzberg, Matthew Aaron
O'Malley, Kaitlin Elizabeth
Ong, Andrew Yang-Hua
Patel, Shonak
Penny, Meghan Elizabeth
Perkins, Elliot Howard

Purcell, Carolyn Rachel
Reilly, Mary Margaret
Rodger, Adam Steele
Rusckowski, Lauren Marie
Shin, Naomi Sunghae
Shipula, Alicia Elizabeth
Shue, Sharon
Sweeney, Shannon Rose
Swoboda, Kristen Marie
Tang, Amy Yuen-Lee
Tsai, Gina Jeng
Tseng, Beverly Hwa-Yu
Tylus, Lisa Marie
Urbelis, Jessica Holly
Vining, Dianna Olivia
Voorhees, Andrew Patrick
Webb, Rosanna Elaine
White, Meredith Megan
Xu, Jin-Chang
Yang, Frank Zhongfeng
Yeh, Li-Chun

HONORS

Ahmed, Natasha
Anciello, Leah Marie
Arcidy, Lauren Catherine
Barry, Jacqueline Ann
Becker, Lauren Adina
Bligh, Melissa Sue
Boucher, Holly Clare
Brewer, Samuel Middleton
Brouillard, Christopher D.
Brown, Bruce Daniel
Brown, Sally Jeanne

(Continued on page 16)

Class of 2002

HIGH HONORS

Anestis, Vasiliki
Atkins, Benjamin David
Berger, Michael Samuel
Boshar, Katharine Anne
Brown, Gregory William
Browne, Eleanor Carol
Burke, Jessica Marie
Carlson, Tristina Strauch
Charron, Rachel Beth
Clarke, Alan
Connors, David Michael
Crocker, Justin Richard
Dallal, Joshua Elias
Domigan, Courtney Kay
Durant, Amy Lynn
Edelstein, Adam Stuart
Eskin, Jack Alexander
Espy, Laura Carlin
Givens, Bethany Jane
Goldman, Zachary Ethan
Goldstein, Laura Julia
Goldthwaite, Kathryn Joy



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AHS HONORS

(Continued from page 15)

Bularzik, Matthew John
Burbank Jr., Peter Nelson
Callison, Christian Andrew
Camilo, Natasha Rose
Champion, Jane Alexander
Chan, Priscilla Tien Hui
Chang, Karen Tsaiwey
Chen, Gary
Chen, William Wei-Jen
Cherry, Adam Drew
Chiaraluce, Andrew Joseph
Chomicz, David Michael
Cohen, Emily Alyse
Cohen, Hilary Beth
Colangelo, Karina Silvia
Collins, Ashley Elizabeth
Conrad, Sherri Lynne
Costello, Christopher Crane
Crossley, Erin Elizabeth
Culver, Nicholas Bloomfield
Cuneo, Megan Elizabeth
Daley, Brian Joseph
Davidson, Kimberly Ann
Desjardins, Joshua Michael
Dexter, Allison Lee
Deyerdmond, Kelly Eileen
Drapeau, Gregory Mason
Durkin, Lindsey Leigh
Elsmore, Kristin Nicole
Flemming, Jennifer Lauren
Fortier, Allyson Theresa
Fortunato, Christopher M.
Gaines, Stephen Joseph
Garone, Jessica Carol
Gilbert, Ashley Corbin
Gilbert III, Bert James
Ginsberg, Robyn Eve
Giordano, Eric Neale
Godek, Elisabeth Ashley
Gordon, Rachel Meredith
Green, Jennifer Margaret
Greene, Corey Rachel
Greenspan, Evan
Griffin, Melissa Ann
Guidoboni, Erica Lauren
Gustin, Katharine Rose
Hamilton, Allison McCabe
Hanlon, Christopher Mark
Harrold, Robin Lindsay
Haugh, Kaitlin Patricia
Henderson, Dana Louise
Herling, John Leslie
Hoffman, Christopher Adam
Horovitz, Erez Cheim
Huggins, Matthew James
Huntley, Danielle Elise
Iulucci, Louis Dominic
Jenkins, Andrew Thomas
Johnson, R. Douglas
Johnston, Alexandra Leigh
Johnston, Matthew David
Joseph, Alexander Lincoln
Katsikis, Christina
Kazakevich, Elaine E.
Kearney, Angelina Margaret
Keene, Lauren Anella

Keough, Karen Lynn
Kobler, Stephanie Louise
Kolchinsky, Joseph Mark
Kramer, Kathleen Elizabeth
Kuipers, Christiana Rebekah
Lakow, Robert Evan
Lam, Paul Chung
Lane, Thomas Charles
Leclerc, Matthew Ryan
Leider, Justin David
Leonard, Kristen Leigh
Leung, Jonathan Hiuming
Lievenbruck, Heather M.
Longo, Matthew Stephen
Loring, Peter Kray
Lothrop, Kathleen Elizabeth
Madigan, Danielle Catherine
Mancinelli, Matthew Brian
Manners, Andrea Rose
Marchlik, Scott Robert
Martin, Philip Howard
Martorana, David Christian
Massihzadegan, Bahaar S.
McGrath, David Allen
McLaughlin, Kelly Ann
Meagher, Jeffrey Stephen
Meagher, Timothy Thomas
Mendoza, Danielle Hellen
Miller, Elizabeth Ann
Miller, Heather Lee
Misawa, Eisuke
Moffitt, Kristen Lynn
Mompalaisir, Edwight
Mompalaisir, Jeffrey
Mongeau, Gregory Richard
Moody, Jessica Wells
Mouzakis, Stephen Timothy
Muller, Edith May
Munro, Loren Ashley
Murphy, Mark Francis
Narasimhan, Kaushik
Neal, Jessica Leigh
Neri, Maire Elizabeth
Newell, Diana Carolyn
Newman, Catherine E.
Nguyen, Namphuong
O'Connell, Laura Ann
Osorio, Veronica Patricia
Palumbo, Mary Catherine
Papadopoulos, Jason John
Pinksten, Megan Mary
Putnam, Todd Adams
Randall, Kiley Rebecca
Rawlinson, Meredith Wilmot
Reed, Brady Foster
Rocker, John
Rogers, Laura Ann
Ronan, Timothy Joseph
Rotsart, Angelica Mae
Roy, Justin Donald
Rubenstein, Caitlin Jane
Salois, Meaghan Kelly
Sanford, Nathan David
Saragas, Effie
Sawyer, C. Joanna
Schardin, Pamela Elizabeth
Sharis, Nicholas Joseph

Shin, Seung Eun
Shoemaker, Matthew Martin
Shulik, William Gordon
Sibulesky, Daniel
Sico, Timothy Joseph
Singh, Sunita Durga
Slovin, Joshua Eric
Smilowitz, Stuart Joseph
Spang, Kara Marie
Spitzer, Linn Winthrop
Stockwood, Patrick Gordon
Stone, Stephen Ray
Taperow, Susan Brooke
Tsai, Natalia Wei-Chen
Turpin, Shameise
Urena, Wildania Mariely
Vaccaro, Nicholas Arthur
Vanderheiden, Christine B.
Varley, Andrew William
Vispoli, Colleen Ann
Waisnor, Matthew Edward
Wang, John Yang
Wetterskog, Amy Christina
Wong, Patricia
Yet, Elysia
Yoshida, Keiko Lauren
Zhang, Hugh Xiaotang

Class of 2003

HIGH HONORS

Adams, Nathan Douglas
Alexander, Jaclyn Teresa
Araujo, Kristina Laura
Bagnall, Matthew Lee
Bartley, Sean Michael
Bates, Crystal Anne
Begley, Jeffrey Michael
Bogdanova, Anna
Bradley, Meghan Kathleen
Cail, Katherine Lindsay
Carpentier, Melissa C.
Casper, Stephanie Ruth
Chan, Julie Marie
Charlebois, Meghan E.
Cohen, Laura Dayle
Crawford, Demorie Ann
Crawford, Dianna Catherine
Daniel, Andrea Brigit
Davidovits, Terence
Day, Cameron Duncan
Fink, Rebecca Drummond
Fish, Meredith Lindsey
Gardner, Megan Elizabeth
Grosser, Gabriela Rachel
Hanna, Alexander Marcus
Harlow, Lauren
Hastings, Alia Vasconcellos
Hender, Taylor James
Pisu, David
Hsu, Jessica Elizabeth
Huang, Henry
Jaffe, Daniel Abraham
Johnson, Stephen George
Kaplan, David Scott
Kapoor, Priti
Kedia, Mihir
Konjoian, Bristol Elizabeth
Kwolyk, Julia Jo
Ladeau, Alexander Moulton
Lai, Kevin Timothy

(Continued on page 46)

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News

Andover rises from 18 to 11 in MCAS ranking

(Continued from page 1)

will be required to pass the 10th-grade MCAS test to graduate from high school. McGrath says teachers in eighth and ninth grade this year are beginning to teach "bridge units" in social studies to make sure students will be prepared by 10th grade.

Bach and McGrath say they agree with the state that the first graduation requirement should be set on a low level, and gradually increased over the years.

"You can't have two levels of failing," Bach says.

Bach says she is most pleased with the consistency of 1999 MCAS scores among Andover elementary schools, which shows that elementary teachers throughout the district are becoming more and more aligned in their curricula.

McGrath credits the improvement in student scores to hard work on the part of students and many professional development and summer courses done by teachers.

Bach and McGrath note that all the students tested in 1999 MCAS tests have never taken the test before.

Once the school system has four years worth of results, it will be able to track the progress of individual students, McGrath says.

School Committee member Skip Eccles says he is concerned schools will put too much emphasis on the meaning of MCAS scores, which could lead to pressuring teachers to "teach to the test."

Bach agrees that teachers shouldn't feel that pressure, and praised School Committee members for their perspective on the issue.

"We feel that if the curriculum is delivered properly, the test will take care of itself," says Bach, who believes School Committee members agree.

Bach also credits McGrath for setting up an assessment system for local standards and state standards that allowed teachers and principals to participate.

"It's teacher and principal driven, but she set the vision and the standards," Bach says.

ANDOVER

		Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level					Average Scaled Score	Number Students Included*
		Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Failing (Tested)	Failing (Absent)		
All Students								
Grade 4	English Language Arts	1	42	54	3	0	238	496
	Mathematics	23	35	35	7	0	244	497
	Science & Technology	18	62	19	1	0	247	496
Grade 8	English Language Arts	5	75	19	2	0	246	448
	Mathematics	16	38	32	13	1	239	453
	Science & Technology	10	37	29	23	1	236	453
	History and Social Science	0	18	55	25	1	228	453
Grade 10	English Language Arts	8	56	30	6	1	242	370
	Mathematics	29	26	32	12	1	244	372
	Science & Technology	8	47	38	6	1	240	372
Regular Education Students								
Grade 4	English Language Arts	1	49	49	1	0	240	417
	Mathematics	26	39	32	3	0	246	429
	Science & Technology	19	66	14	1	0	249	438
Grade 8	English Language Arts	6	81	13	0	0	248	389
	Mathematics	18	41	33	8	1	242	400
	Science & Technology	11	40	30	17	1	238	399
	History and Social Science	1	20	58	20	1	230	398
Grade 10	English Language Arts	9	58	30	3	0	243	341
	Mathematics	31	27	31	11	1	245	347
	Science & Technology	8	48	38	5	1	241	345
Students with Disabilities								
Grade 4	English Language Arts	0	3	82	16	0	226	76
	Mathematics	3	13	51	32	0	226	68
	Science & Technology	3	38	52	7	0	236	58
Grade 8	English Language Arts	0	36	53	12	0	234	59
	Mathematics	0	17	28	55	0	219	53
	Science & Technology	0	13	22	65	0	217	54
	History and Social Science	0	2	35	62	2	215	55
Grade 10	English Language Arts	0	32	29	36	4	225	28
	Mathematics	8	20	44	20	8	229	25
	Science & Technology	4	30	37	22	7	228	27

* This column indicates the number of students that are included in the determination of scaled score and performance level results. The following groups of students are *not* included in this column: students who had a medically documented absence; students with disabilities who required an alternate assessment; and limited English proficient (LEP) students in school in the United States for three or fewer years, and for whom the Spanish language version of the test was not required.

Source: State Department of Education Website <http://www.doe.mass.edu>

Water ...

(Continued from page 6)

mack River Watershed Association, says 4.4 million gallons a day is too much to draw from the river, and could use up water needed for drinking and other "river dependent" uses.

"At some point, no matter how much water flows through the Merrimack River, if you take the next million gallons, you could affect the (Lawrence Hydroelectric) plant's ability to generate power, or you couldn't get your boat up the river at certain times, or a community will have less drinking water. We don't want to get to that point," Goodno says.

Goodno says the MRWA is not opposed to the plant, but is opposed the amount of water to be withdrawn from the river.

He says the MRWA has encouraged Nickel Hill to look into an air-cooling process that would not involve drawing so much water from the river.

"It's a little less efficient, but we believe the water should be reserved for a more environmental purpose," he says.

Guy Dizazzo, operating supervisor of the Lawrence power plant, says the water used by their plant passes through the plant and turns turbines, but is not withdrawn from the river.

The Lawrence hydroelectric plant is run by the Lawrence Hydroelectric Associates, affiliated with the Essex Company.

Shawsheen absolved by state

The Office of Civil Rights has absolved the Shawsheen School of any wrongdoing in a class-action suit that alleged discrimination against special-needs students and their families.

After a lengthy investigation, the OCR found insufficient evidence to support claims of discrimination from a small group of parents of Shawsheen School students, according to a release from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Claudia Bach.

"We're very pleased," she says.

Parents charged that the Shawsheen Integrated Primary School

was not accessible to disabled students, denied necessary services to students with special needs, treated students with certain disabilities differently than students without disabilities, and treated boys with ADD differently than girls with ADD.

The OCR did say that if the Shawsheen School were built today it would not be considered compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, but given the age of the building and the plan to address requirements of the act, the school is in compliance, Bach says.

— Rebecca Lipchitz

Powder Mill Square needs variance

Developers of the proposed Powder Mill Square project will be required to seek a variance from the town's Zoning Bylaw, due to inconsistencies between the town bylaws and federal regulations.

Conservation Commission members continued Tuesday's public hearing for the project until Jan. 4. Meanwhile, developers will seek status as an aggrieved party by a decision from the Inspector of Buildings, and a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals in determining whether their proposed building should be flood-proof or waterproof.

Local zoning requires a building in the flood plain to be waterproof, or not allow water to enter the walls of the building, while federal laws would require the building to be flood-proof.

A flood-proof building would allow water to flow through it so pressure does not build up on the inside, says Inspector of Buildings Kaija Gilmore.

According to attorney Bob Lavoie representing the project, the Inspector of Buildings required a variance for the project because she does not have authority to waive the local zoning bylaw, despite the conflicting federal law.

Meanwhile, developers are working with Town Counsel in drafting an agreement which would give the town permanent rights to flood the property when necessary. The unusual agreement, deemed "creative" by Conservation Commission member Paul Finger, may have to be approved by the state Department of Environmental Management.

— Rebecca Lipchitz

Teichert ...

(Continued from page 1)

still a lot of questions," says Lynch, Tuesday afternoon. "It was a close call," was how the doctors put it at first. That was quite a shock."

Lynch says her brother is answering questions, but is on medication and sleeping a lot.

Her family has been touched by the outpouring of support from Andover, and by the efforts from local emergency and hospital personnel.

It just seems that's not enough at this point. It's incredible how helpful people are," she says. "These people, they just can't be any nicer and that's touched us all."

Teichert's family also expressed gratitude to the selectmen for holding a moment of silence before their joint meeting Monday.

While preparing to run for selectman, Teichert has been a familiar face at recent meetings.

Teichert and Finance Committee member Don Robb are the only announced candidates



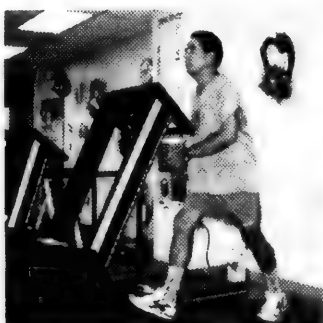
Ted Teichert

for selectman.

"How do you say, 'Thank you'?"

Saints Memorial Medical Center Presents Five Health Tips For A Longer Life

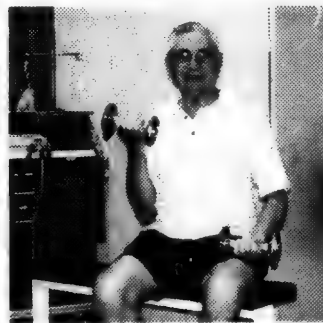
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4. Add relaxation to your life
5. Talk with your Saints physician for a health program designed just for you



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Diane Olsen biking



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LETTERS

(Continued from page 10)

help lower property taxes for homeowners) with "extra traffic lights, road improvements, and water treatment plants for business" and not "hurting the people who will have the greatest difficulty in paying."

Mr. Cuticchia is exactly right on this issue. I am a businessman. I moved my company from Burlington to Andover more than 19 years ago. I did it because of Andover's location to Routes 93 and 495, affordable housing, great schools for our employees and a terrific labor market for our growth. All of those reasons are still true today for any business that wants to be located in Andover. Business is going through unprecedented growth. Profits, market capitalization valuations, and our stock markets are at all-time highs.

There were more than 8,000 mergers and acquisitions alone in 1998, just to increase profits and market share. Just ask some of the good Andover people who lost their jobs due to bank mergers. Over the last few years, Shawmut, BayBank, Bank Boston and Fleet Bank have become one bank. Remember when we had these four banks in our town? Is this the time to give a gift to business at the expense of the homeowners? Let's get real here!

I also have friends trying to balance paying mortgage, tax, and large tuition bills who want to stay and retire in Andover. Our older children are moving out of town because of the cost of homes and the property tax bills in Andover. They have grown up here but they can't afford to be married and live here. Is this the time to change the property tax structure? I don't think so. Ask our town real estate brokers and mortgage professionals if this is a good thing for our town. Ask some of the younger home-

owners, parents, and school officials wanting new schools at our next town meeting if this is a good thing. Ask our elderly on a fixed income who are worried about high medical insurance premiums and escalating prescription drug costs if this tax hike is a good thing for them and our town.

Andover is a great town because we are a community. We truly care about each other — our family, friends, church, schools, teachers, sports teams, our youth and elderly, and our businesses. We always do the right thing at town meetings for the Andover community. We should and do support our downtown merchants. Marty Spagat, and his Brickstone Tree, is someone in business who understands giving back to the community.

In this joyous holiday season I do not want to pit business against homeowner. I just want our selectmen to do the right thing and keep the tax structure the same. Please give the town back to the homeowners.

Unlike business, homeowners have no unified voice. We have two choices and it is up to you:

1. Do nothing.
2. Write a short thank you note to our selectmen about the tax hike. Tell them not to try to fix something that is not broken. Write the note, find a stamp and mail it. Please do it NOW. It might take you all of five minutes — but I believe it's a good investment in our town. This can and will happen year after year unless we voice our opinion.

These are your elected selectmen and their decisions should reflect the needs and burdens of the homeowners. It is up to you to take action. This is my first letter that I have ever written to the *Townsmen*, but I feel this tax issue is important and is truly in your hands.

Bill Burke
290 South Main St.

Selectmen ponder better way for betterments

By Neil Fater

Should every homeowner about to be connected to town sewers pay the same amount to flush?

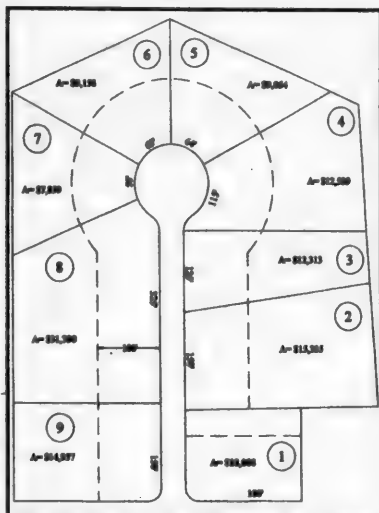
With different multi-million-dollar sewer expansion projects both beginning and proposed, selectmen are exploring that question.

Currently, a sewer user pays a betterment based on a combination of his or her lot's frontage and area to a depth of 100 feet (See Method A). That means that each landowner pays a different amount.

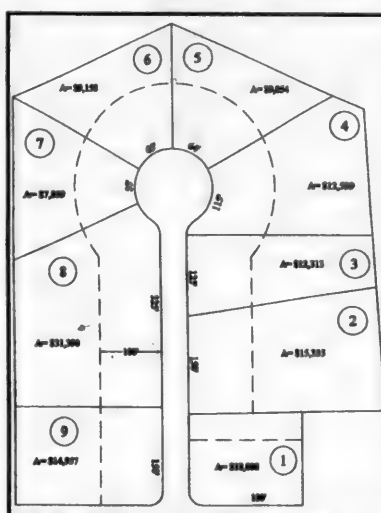
But some officials say there are inequities with this method, and that residents have complained about them after talking with their neighbors.

"They compare rates over the weekend at a barbecue and they say, 'Wow, I'm paying twice as much (as my neighbor) and it doesn't cost twice as much to sewer my property,'" says Jack Petkus, new public works director.

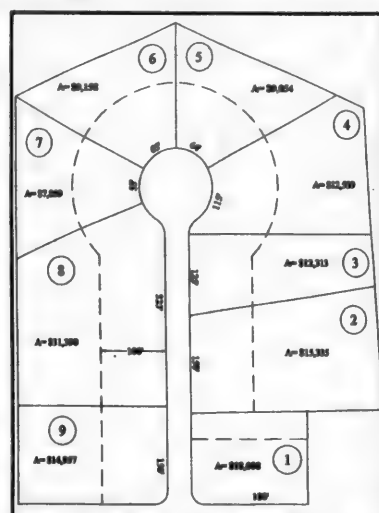
The payment oddities are particularly noticeable in new cluster developments, where owners of large lots with small frontages are paying significantly less than owners of smaller, corner lots, says Petkus.



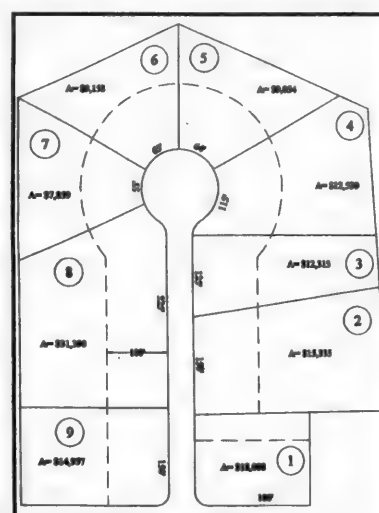
Method A — The one used since 1898.



Method B — Less disparity with pie-shaped lots.



Method C — Might take special legislation.



Method D — Petkus considers it the fairest.

In hopes of finding a better way, Petkus has presented three alternative betterment models to selectmen. Any change to the sewer betterment system would have to be approved by at least a Town Meeting vote.

Petkus says he believes the fairest method is to charge people based on their area only, measured to a depth of 200 feet (See Method D). Although this would require the town to make thousands of measurements, "that split gave us what we considered to be the fairest distribution," says Petkus.

The town has also looked at determining the rate based on a combination of frontage, as measured at a 100-foot setback line, and area to a depth of 100 feet (See Method C).

However both of these methods would likely require the approval of both the Town Meeting and the state Legislature.

Town officials say that changing to a fixed-unit method might require only a Town Meeting vote.

As the name implies, a fixed-unit method would charge every single-lot owner the same rate, regardless of lot size (See Method

B). However, owners of land that could be divided into more than one lot would pay for multiple lots.

Petkus says this method would "bring us a long way" toward a fairer payment plan.

"There are inequities in the system that we used. I don't know if there is a 'perfect' method," says Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski.

"Like everything else in life, it ain't easy," he says. "We would have to have a Town Meeting vote to change to the fixed-unit method."

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Override ...

(Continued from page 1)

showed FY 2005 deficits of between \$6.3 million and \$11.7 million.

However, discussions about a possible operating budget override are just beginning.

Several officials say Johnson-Staub's scenarios could change significantly, depending on what priorities they assign to future budget items.

The figures also assumed that the town would expand a number of services, said Finance Committee Chairman Don Schroeder.

Many officials question how many currently unapproved capital improvement items, town positions and programs were included in the projections to arrive at the debit figures.

School Committee member Eric Nadworny said the town must decide what programs it needs for the next five years before it can seriously consider whether an operating budget override is needed.

"It is important that the town priorities drive the budget, and that the budget doesn't drive the priorities," said Nadworny. "I used to be a budget analyst long before I was on the School Committee. You can make it look like

there's going to be a problem. There's ways of dealing with it."

Still, some officials are concerned. Certainly it appears both they and residents will have a number of important decisions on their hands in the coming few years.

"We're already trying to find ways to put a patch on the financial trouble we see ourselves getting into. And they're not minor problems," said Selectman Lori Becker. "I just think we might have too much to do all at once."

Both Marden and fellow FinCom member Schroeder say the town cannot rule out either making significant cuts to proposed annual spending, or passing an override to pay for Andover's operating budget.

In fact, they say officials may need to decide on whether to pursue an operating budget override as early as January 2001, to be ready for the 2001 Town Meeting.

"I don't think that it would be for this year, meaning fiscal year 2001," said Selectmen Chairman John Hess. "It's more about what's



Nadworny — Deal with it.

going to happen in 2002, 2003, 2004, when operating budgets grow and more students come into town, and the schools (and safety center) open."

Nadworny and Schools Superintendent Claudia Bach say they have not yet discussed a potential operating budget override, nor the school department's position on such an override.

"We're still talking about it in a void," said Nadworny after Monday's meeting. "To be honest with you, that's the furthest thing from my mind, and tonight doesn't change that."

Budget growth

Although some of Johnson-Staub's figures indicated both town and school departments will need to seriously reduce their yearly budgetary percentage increase, some officials see certain increases as unavoidable.

School Committee member Tina Girdwood said the schools expect a \$1-million increase in operating budget once the new schools open.

"I know there are people sitting out there who are senior citizens and taxpayers and this hurts," said School Committee member Dick Collins. "But we can't sacri-

fice our kids and we can't sacrifice our firefighters and police officers.

"The town needs to face up to the fact that this is a growing town, and there are definitely costs. I don't want to see the police or fire department hurt because of the school department, or the other way around," said Collins. "We are a town as a whole and we're not competing against each other and we have to make a sacrifice here or there if we want this to be a town of excellence."

In 1998, Andover spent \$6,406 per pupil, \$230 below the state average, said Bach.

Selectman Larry Larsen told school leaders that they should present the town with what they need to make Andover schools excellent, and ask voters "if you want better, then are you willing to pay for it?"

Andover approved a debt exclusion override in 1994 to pay for its last approximately \$40-million schools project, and is eying another debt exclusion to build the two new schools on Cross Street.

Nearly all town officials view the \$28.6 million article for building the two new schools as the key item for 2000 Town Meeting.

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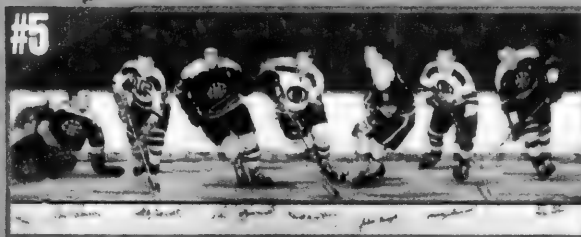
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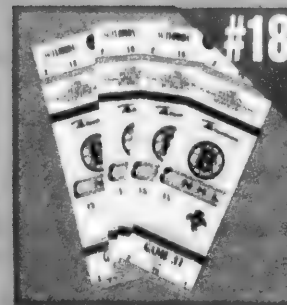
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The Chief's Legacy: A special framed color collage of Bruins' Hockey Hall-of-Famer Johnny Bucyk's 21-year Boston career. The Chief's 21 different hockey cards spanning each season he played. You've never seen anything like this! Personally autographed by its donor.



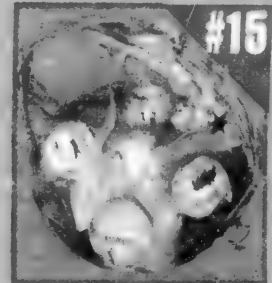
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A Canadiens' Classic: Be the only sports fan around to have this special, framed, mounted color photo of the three all-time Montreal Canadiens legends together - Guy Lafleur, Jean Beliveau and Maurice "The Rocket" Richard - personally autographed by each of them. It represents an incredible 23 Stanley Cup championships. This is a treasure!



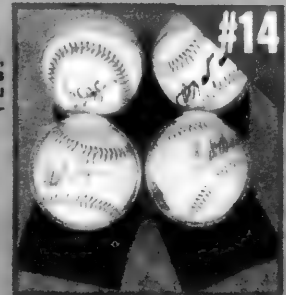
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To the Nines: A collector's one-in-a-lifetime item - A Wayne Gretzky 1999 Hall-of-Fame jersey, this one personally autographed by Gretzky's childhood idol, the legendary No. 9 Hall-of-Famer, Gordie Howe. Plus a bonus: a 1999 Hall of Fame induction nickel medallion collector's set of inductees Wayne Gretzky, Andy Van Hellemond and Scotty Morrison.



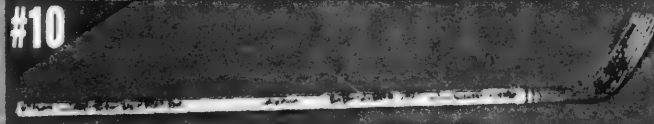
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Hockey Fan's Dream: Four logo seats, the best, to the Bruins - Florida Panthers game at the FleetCenter on Feb. 12. You can even use them as an early Valentine's present.



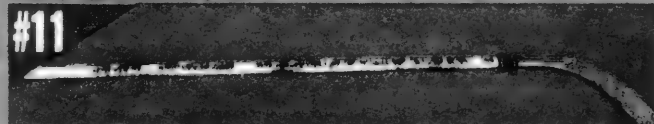
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Basket of Baseballs: A baseball fan's unique gift: A basket full of autographed baseballs, signed by 82 major leaguers such as Carl Yastrzemski, Mo Vaughn, Wade Boggs, Bill Buckner, Frank Miele, Joe Morgan, Johnny Pesky, Mike Greenwell and many more.



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One-of-a-kind stick: Hockey stick personally autographed by 33 Boston Bruins spanning 5 decades. Ranging from Hall-of-Famers Milt Schmidt, Johnny Bucyk, Ferra Flaman, Woody Dumart, Phil Esposito and Brad Park to Cam Neely, Derek Sanderson, Don Marcotte, Don Awrey, Ed Westfall, Jerry Toppazzini and many more.



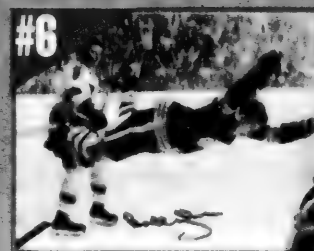
#11
Last Bruins of The Millennium: Hockey stick autographed by the 1999-2000 Bruins team, from Bourque and Datoe to Joe Thornton and Sergei Samonov.



#3
Lord Byron's Christmas Gift: Bruins' goalie Byron Dabo will host you and a guest at a Bruins' FleetCenter practice, then personally take both of you on a tour of the Bruins' dressing room. You'll also get a Byron Dabo No. 34 Bruins' game jersey, a Dabo goalie stick and his photo, all personally autographed by "Lord Byron" in time for Christmas.



#13
Jumbo Joe: A Joe Thornton game jersey personally autographed by the current Bruins' leading scorer.



#6
Super Bobby: The most famous photo in New England sports history, Bobby Orr's "Flying Through The Air" Stanley Cup-winning goal, autographed and donated by Number 4 himself. Custom-framed and ready.



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- ♦ Bids will be accepted December 9 - December 16 at 4:00 p.m.
- ♦ High bidders will be contacted by phone for confirmation.

You must be at least 18 years of age or have parental permission to bid. All proceeds benefit The Eagle-Tribune Santa Fund.

Call in your bids on these Sports items!

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POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Wednesday, Dec. 1 - At 9:33 a.m., an Andover High School employee called police because he had been asked to see if a certain girl showed up at school. She had been reported missing by her mother. A lieutenant reported that the 14-year-old female did have a warrant from juvenile court and she was arrested and charged on this warrant, according to the log.

Thursday, Dec. 2 - At 2:43 p.m., Iris Torres,

34, of 65 Center St., Lawrence, was arrested on Andover Street and charged with driving without a license.

Friday, Dec. 3 - At 1:58 p.m., Jerry W. Victor, 19, 236 Princeton Blvd., Lowell, was arrested on North Main Street and charged with driving an uninsured vehicle with a suspended license, after its plates had been revoked.

At 11:18 p.m., Joshua J. Radick, 19, of 442 211 Ave. N.E., Redmond, Wash., was arrested by Merrimack College police, brought to the Andover station, and charged by Merrimack

with possessing a Class D substance.

Saturday, Dec. 4 - At 2:07 a.m., after an alarm company reported a problem at Underground Music on Main Street and officers reported a smashed window, two males were arrested. William A. Rosenoff, 18, of 4 Thurber St., Framingham, and Kenneth C. Johnson, 18, of 70 Carmel Road, Andover, were both arrested and charged with breaking and entering a building during the night with intent to commit a felony and with larceny of property worth more than \$250.

At 11:19 p.m., Robert Johnston, 53, of 70 Salem St., Andover, was arrested on North Main Street and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and speeding.

Sunday, Dec. 5 - At 12:30 a.m., police placed a 54-year-old Andover woman in protective custody after she came to the station.

At 1:26 p.m., a 16-year-old Andover male was arrested at the station and charged with indecent assault and battery on a child under 14 and assault and battery. While the subject was being released, EMTs were called for a relative who started to have chest pains.

Tuesday, Dec. 7 - At 7:24 a.m., Jesus Rivera, 37, 264A Jackson St., Lawrence, was arrested on River Road and charged with driving with a revoked license and defective equipment.

At 1:25 p.m., James. J. Yameen, 40, of 4 Pilgrim Drive, Andover, was arrested at a Franklin Avenue address and charged on a warrant for a restraining order violation.

At 9:42 p.m., Derek DiPietro, 18, of 5 Royal Crest Drive, North Andover, was arrested on North Main Street and charged with driving with a suspended license, and with a red-light and a seat-belt violation.

to turn over keys she had found on South Main Street at Orchard Street on Thanksgiving Day.

At 4:19 p.m., a Bartlet Street employee reported receiving a counterfeit bill.

At 11:42 p.m., a Wild Rose Drive woman reported "she has a problem with her door bell or someone keeps ringing it." An officer reported that there was a problem with the bell, and that they had taken care of it.

Thursday, Dec. 2 - At 3:46 p.m., a caller reported that there was a branch hanging down on Cross Street, near River Road. An officer pulled the branch down.

Friday, Dec. 3 - At 12:55 p.m., a caller reported an elderly female at Shawsheen Plaza who seemed confused and was crying. An officer drove the woman to her home and contacted a relative.

At 2:13 p.m., a downtown store employee reported believing two suspicious males were "casing" the store. A detective reported the two were out selling Christmas wreaths.

At 2:15 p.m., the Doherty principal called police about a green vehicle hanging around the school's bus area. He wanted an officer to respond "so that he can confront the subject." Before the officer arrived, the principal called back to report the man had been looking for a teacher and was confused about where to park.

At 8:56 p.m., a male came to the station with his mother to report he had been assaulted earlier that day while at the Greater Lawrence Technical School.

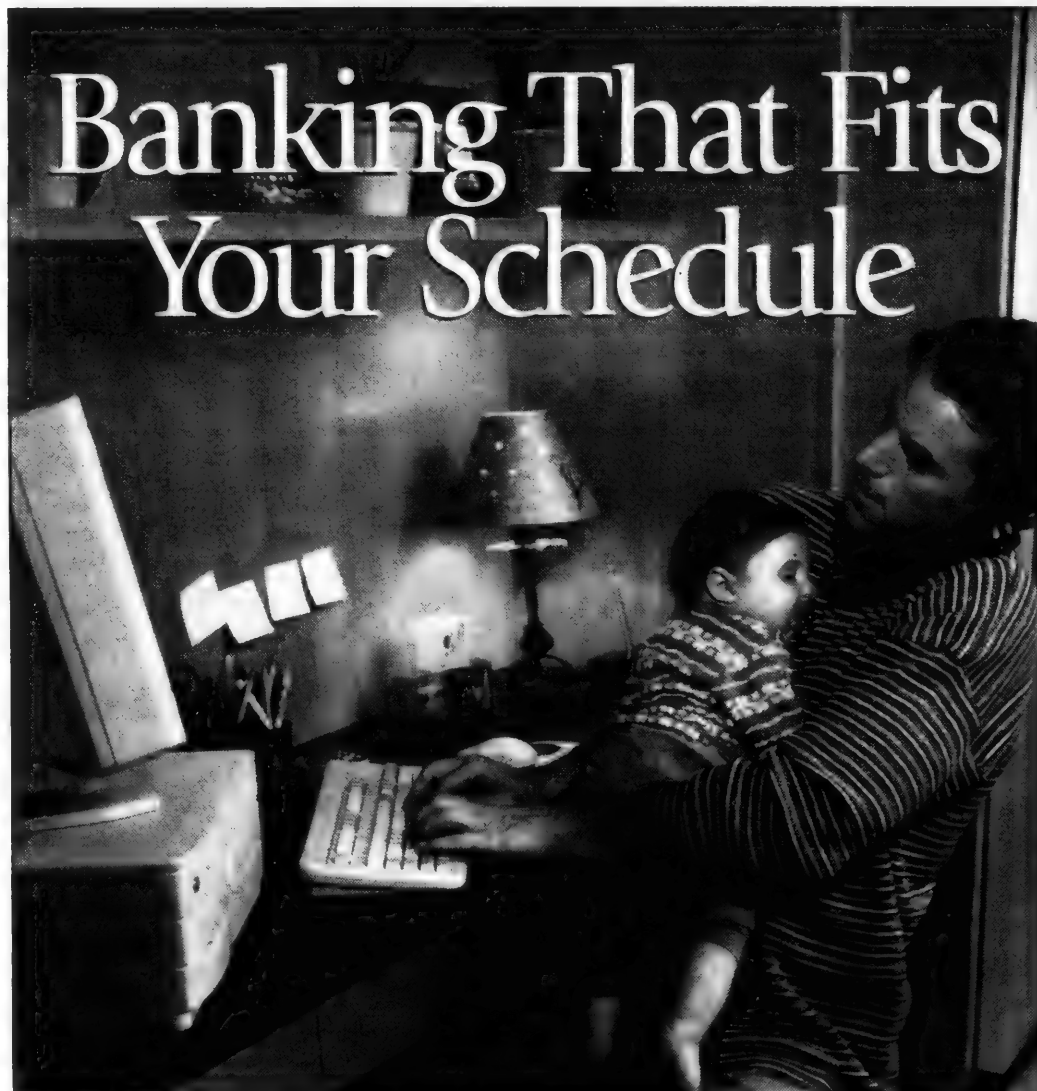
At 9:51 p.m., a River Road resident reported a group of deer walking across the road, and he or she was concerned they might be hit.

Saturday, Dec. 4 - At 4:12 a.m., state police reported that an Elm Street resident had called them claiming an apparently drunk male had given him a newspaper.

At 1:39 p.m., a Wild Harvest employee reported a customer

INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Dec. 1 - At 2:06 p.m., a woman came to the station



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POLICE LOG

(Continued from page 22)

asking for police after he was involved in a fight with another customer in the parking lot. The other person had left the scene. The caller was bleeding, but did not want an ambulance. An officer requested that area police look for the vehicle of the person who had left in reference to an assault and battery. The man at the scene was transported to Methuen by police.

At 2:15 p.m., two females came into the station to talk about getting a restraining order. An officer planned to file regarding domestic abuse.

At 9:45 p.m., there was a hang-up call received from a Rutgers Road home. An operator was informed that the young children had just learned about 911 in school and "tried it to see if it worked."

Sunday, Dec. 5 - At 6:57 p.m., an Andover woman reported she needed a police officer, but all she would say was that there was "a sick man in her driveway," according to the log. An officer reported that her husband had been served a restraining order and was transported to a hospital.

Tuesday, Dec. 7 - At 12:58 a.m., an Andover woman reported that she fell asleep in her chair, and when she woke up there was a note on her table. She

thought someone had entered her apartment and left the note while she was sleeping. An officer reported the elderly caller was confused, and the note was from her daughter, who appeared to have been there a while.

At 12:01 p.m., an Andover woman reported that her 19-year-old son had left in her car and seemed suicidal. Around 2 p.m., the male was found and voluntarily went to a hospital to be checked out.

At 1:16 p.m., a Center Street caller requested to speak to an officer regarding a neighbor who he said drove into his lane when their vehicles were approaching one another.

THEFTS

Wednesday, Dec. 1 - At 9:10 a.m., a Center St. resident asked to speak with an officer regarding a camera that was stolen from his back yard on Nov. 30. Officers reported that a summons would be issued for larceny under \$250.

Thursday, Dec. 2 - At 9:03 p.m., a Park Street businessman came to the station to speak with an officer about an employee he believed might be stealing from him.

Saturday, Dec. 4 - At 12:18 p.m., an officer was to file on a bad check that was passed at a Main Street location.

Sunday, Dec. 5 - At 6:42 p.m., a woman reported her wallet was taken out of her car while she was at a supermarket about an hour before.

Monday, Dec. 6 - At 10:08 a.m., a town yard worker reported his cellular phone either lost or stolen.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Thursday, Dec. 2 - At 9:06 a.m., a River Road caller reported an abandoned vehicle with several broken windows, that appeared to have been vandalized. The vehicle was gone by the time an officer arrived.

At 4:16 p.m., officers were sent to shut down the ramp from River Road to Interstate 93 northbound because of an accident on the highway.

At 6:51 p.m., a woman came to the station to report someone had broken into her car while it was parked at the Ballardvale train station.

At 8:06 p.m., another woman reported her 1997 Jeep had been stolen from the Ballardvale train station parking lot. About an hour and 40 minutes later, a man reported his vehicle was also broken into while parked there.

Friday, Dec. 3 - At 2:13 a.m. a stolen vehicle was recovered on Dascomb Road.

At 4:02 a.m., a lieutenant reported that a stripped vehicle that had been stolen out of Lawrence on Dec. 1 was found in the Morton Street lot. The log reported that the "vehicle's interior is missing (completely)."

At 6:47 p.m., after a new vehicle owner reported the vehicle had been vandalized at the Railroad Street lot, an

officer reported that there had been an attempted theft of the SUV.

Sunday, Dec. 5 - At 10:11 p.m., a vehicle fire was reported on Gillette Way.

Monday, Dec. 6 - At 11:24 a.m., an employee on Campanelli Drive reported two teen-agers in a parking lot looking into parked cars. A stolen vehicle was reported. Londonderry, N.H. police recovered the vehicle that afternoon.

At 11:3 a.m., a vehicle stolen out of Stoneham was recovered at Media One.

ACCIDENTS

Saturday, Dec. 4 - At 3:36 p.m., a River Street caller reported an accident with injuries. An officer issued a written warning to one driver for "failure to maintain lane and speed."

At 6:58 p.m., a man driving on Lowell Street reported hitting a deer that ran in front of his car on Route 133. There was damage to the car and the deer expired near the side of the road.

Sunday, Dec. 5 - At 9:11 a.m., a County Road resident reported a hit-and-run accident on her Honda the previous day.

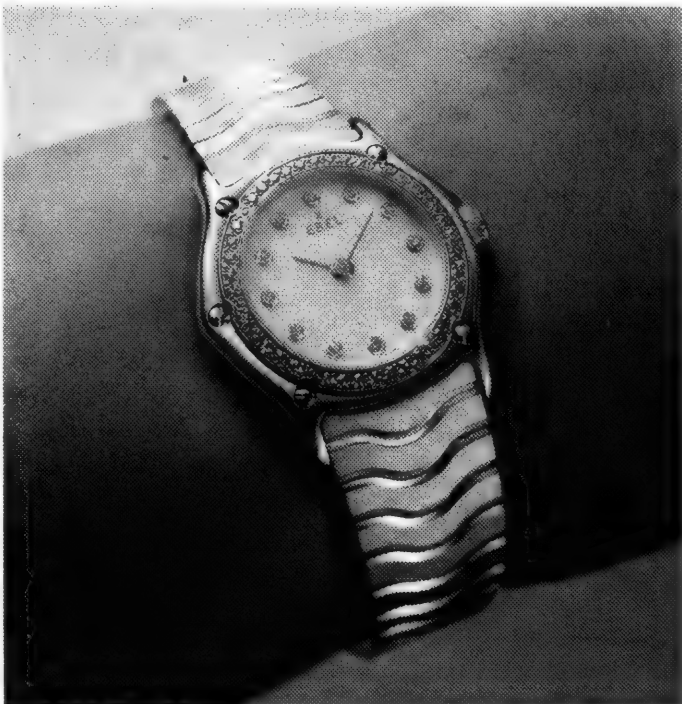
Tuesday, Dec. 7 - At 7:57 a.m., there were numerous reports of an accident with injury near the intersection of Greenwood and High Plain roads.

VANDALISM

There were three reported incidents of vandalism this week.

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Arts & Entertainment

Short cuts

Neil Fater



Twosome in Toyland

A pair of Andover actors will bring a mother lode of experience to the world of Mother Goose this weekend.

Marianne Iuliucci and Glenn Wakeley have been cast in the lead roles of Town and Country Playhouse's version of *Babes in Toyland*.

The musical will run this weekend, Dec. 10, 11 and 12.

Wakeley describes the music a "really hummable."

"I think the play is more geared toward young kids, but adults will like seeing the (Mother Goose) fables behind the characters," says Wakeley. "They'll recognize all of the characters. Not every one has a speaking role, but they'll recognize them from how they're dressed."



Quite a couple - Marianne Iuliucci (Mary Quite Contrary) and Glenn Wakeley (Alan) team up in *Toyland*.

Iuliucci plays Mistress Mary Quite Contrary, whose affections are sought by both of Wakeley's characters - Alan, and Alan's sinister uncle, Barnaby. The play opens with Mother Goose characters excited about the rivalry.

"It's a very cute show," says Iuliucci. "It's easy to understand for the younger kids, but it's enjoyable for everybody."

That includes Iuliucci, who is excited about the opportunity to play Mary Quite Contrary, the role she set her eyes on when she auditioned.

But, then, she says she always has enjoyed the chance to test her vocal chords.

(TOYS FOR ALL AGES continued on page 26)

'Tis the season, for holiday concerts

Both in Andover

...and out of town

The Andover Choral Society (ACS) will present its sixth annual *Community Messiah* Sing Monday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. at Free Christian Church on Elm Street.

This event provides a holiday opportunity for members of the community to join the members of the Choral Society in presenting in an informal setting the Christmas sections of *Messiah* along with the *Hallelujah Chorus*. Singers will be joined by young soloists from the Boston area.

People who have *Messiah* scores are encouraged to bring them, but scores will be available at the door. A \$5 donation (children under 12 are free) is requested to defray expenses. A surplus generated will be given to a charitable cause, say organizers.

For more information about ACS, call 687-8225.

Dec 19: Carolers invited in library's door

The Parish Choir of Christ Church will present a program of Christmas carols at Memorial Hall Library Sunday, Dec. 19, at 3 p.m.

The performance will be led by Paulette Grundeen,

(ANDOVER FA LA LA LA continued on page 25)

The Merrimack Valley String Orchestra, under the direction of Joy Schuetze, will present its annual Holiday Concert Friday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. in Conover Hall at Bradford College, 320 S. Main St., Haverhill.

The concert is free and open to the public.

Special guests will be the Bradford-Pentucket Chorale of Bradford College, Mark N. Peterson, director, who will sing *Gloria* by Antonio Vivaldi with the MVSO Chamber Orchestra.

The MVSO Junior and Senior orchestras will present holiday favorites, including an arrangement of two Coventry Carols, *Troika* from Prokofiev's *Lt. Kije Suite*, Mel Torme's *The Christmas Song*, Rodgers & Hammerstein's *My Favorite Things*, and Christmas and Hanukkah medleys. For more information, call (978) 372-9158.



Dec. 12: Neighborly concert in Methuen

Residents can both enjoy a Christmas concert Sunday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m. at Methuen Memorial Music Hall and help support Neighbors in Need food pantries.

(NEIGHBORS IN SONG continued on page 25)

New home for the holidays for NECB

The New England Civic Ballet believes it has found one sugarplum of a new stage to hold its annual production of *The Nutcracker* this weekend.

This year, for the first time, the civic ballet will move most of its performances from Lawrence High to the Rogers Center for the Performing Arts at Merrimack College.

"While we love the amount of space Lawrence High School's stage offers us, the Rogers Center is fantastic for many reasons," says Roshni Pecora, artistic director. "It really brings a whole new dimension to our performance. It's exciting for the dancers to dance in theater as opposed to a high-school setting."

Formed four years ago, the New England Civic Ballet considers itself "a community arts endeavor" available to all serious performers. NECB does not retain a base company and holds open auditions for all its roles. Some Andover residents will perform this weekend.

NECB says its goal "is to provide opportunities for the many gifted, well-trained, local dancers, both children and adults, to perform major and supporting roles in professional ballet productions without committing themselves to a company affiliation."

Residents can see NECB's fourth annual production of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* on Friday, Saturday



Tea for four - Andover's Meghan Bradley joins Methuen's Lauren Sprance and Lawrence's Theresa and April Black for the Chinese *divertissement*, also called "Tea," from NECB's *Nutcracker*.

and Sunday, Dec. 10, 11 and 12.

The ballet will be performed at the Rogers Center Friday at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. It will be performed at Lawrence High School at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12.

NECB plans an April production of *The Sleeping Beauty*, and will host

auditions for roles near the end of January.

Pecora is the co-artistic director of NECB with Phyllis George, whose performing career included membership with the American Ballet Theatre and the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes.

- Neil Fater

Out of town concerts

(NEIGHBORS IN SONG from page 24)

Marilyn Wolfe Matusa, mezzo-soprano and a frequent soloist in past Neighbors in Need concerts, is coordinating a Christmas Gala Concert to take place Sunday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m. at Methuen Memorial Music Hall, 192 Broadway, Methuen, to benefit Neighbors in Need, according to Rejeanne Keeley, Neighbors executive director.

Veronice Laite, also a frequent soloist for Neighbors in Need concerts, will be guest organist for the event which will also include five choirs, St. John's Festival Choir and

St. John's Children's Choir of Hudson, N.H., directed by Matusa and St. Ann's Adult Choir, St. Ann's Children's Choir and St. Ann's Youth Choir, all of West Newbury, directed by Laite.

The program will include traditional Christmas music, songs of the '90s and a Christmas singalong.

Tickets will be available at the door and may be reserved by calling the Neighbors in Need Office at 685-8321 or by mail at P.O. Box 447, Lawrence, MA 01842. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors.

In Andover

They're singing in the (holiday) vein

(ANDOVER FA LA LA LA continued from page 24)

organist and music director at Christ Church. The presentation will be an old-fashioned "carol-sing," in which the audience will join the choir in singing well-known, favorite carols. "The choir loves carols and is looking forward to this performance," says Grundeen.

Dec. 19: Southern harmony

The New England Classical Singers, under the direction of David Hodgkins, will present a holiday concert Sunday, Dec. 19, at 3 p.m. at South Church, 41 Central St.

The program includes Pergolesi's *Magnificat* and Charpentier's *Messe de Minuit pour Noel*.

The concert features the Lawrence High School Girls' Ensemble, directed by Nancy

McGhee. Tickets are available for \$12 in advance at the Andover Bookstore, and for \$14 at the door, with a discount for seniors and students.

Call 688-2816 for more information.

Dec. 18: A concert with a solid Foundation

To celebrate this century's final Christmas, members of the arts-ministry group One Foundation have put together what they call "their most extensive worship concert yet."

The musical program will be Saturday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. at New England Bible Church, 60 Chandler Road. Call the church office at 475-4381 for directions, or download directly from their website at www.nebible.org.

The concert will feature The Choral Majority gospel choir and band with One Foundation artists

Alice Fraleigh, Emily Powers and Eric Lindahl, Boston-based gospel ensemble Confirmation, the Reunion Men's Choir, a cappella carolers and a brass quintet. Jim Sharrock (oboe) and Deb Stolar (flute), with Emily Singer (cello) and Andy Lumen (acoustic guitar) from the band Brother Sun will round out the roster of regional talent.

A free-will offering will be taken to offset concert costs and support the group's ministry goals for 2000.

For more information, call One Foundation Ministries at (978) 948-7603 or visit its website, www.one-foundation.com.

ENTERING ANDOVER

By Neil Fater and Don Mathias



THE FIRST SNOWFALL OF THE SEASON



THE FIRST SNOWBALL OF THE SEASON

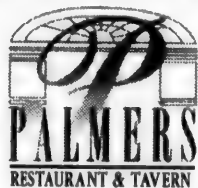


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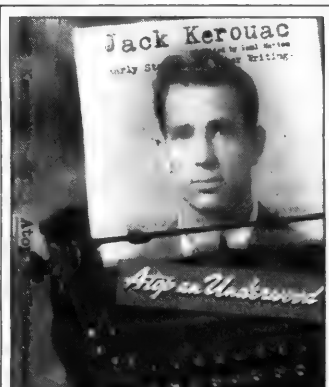
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Toyland twosome

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Drive-up - open until 6:30 p.m.

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CALENDAR

(Continued from page 27)

Comedy Palace, featuring Joe Bolster, Gerroll Bennett, Jay Rodrigus, 8 and 10:30 p.m., *see Friday, Dec. 10, entry.*

Holiday house tour, sponsored by Newburyport Maritime Society, featuring eight private homes, \$12 members, \$15 nonmembers; (978) 462-8740.

Christmas party, sponsored by North Andover VFW Post 2104, for relatives and members of Post up to age 12, adult must accompany children, 2 p.m., 32 Park St., North Andover; 687-9614.

Concert, featuring Vance Gilbert, 8 p.m., \$12, Crossroads Coffeehouse, North Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 190 Academy Road, North Andover; 687-3960.

Musical auditions, sponsored by The Valley Players, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Amesbury Playhouse, 194 Main St., Amesbury; (978) 388-9444.

Concert, *see Friday, Dec. 10, entry.*

Christmas by Candlelight, sponsored by Sacred Choral Artists, 7:30 p.m., \$10, \$7 seniors, children 12 and under, free, West Congregational Church, Route 97, Haverhill; Beth Isaac (978) 372-8186.

Sale, sponsored by Starbucks, 20 percent discount, 8 p.m.-midnight, 14 Main St.; 475-7752.

Concert, "Music of the Season," by Portsmouth Women's Chorus, 4 p.m., Christ Church, Exeter, N.H.

advance tickets \$8 adults, \$5 seniors and students, \$10 adults, \$5 seniors and students at door, Audrey Stomierosky (603) 964-9257.

Holiday open house, *see Thursday, Dec. 9, entry.*

Babes in Toyland, *see Friday, Dec. 10, entry.*

SUNDAY, Dec. 12

Hike, by Appalachian Mountain Club, three miles along Merrimack River, meet 1:30 p.m. at gatehouse, Hewlett-Packard sign; Fred Snell 686-3647.

Christmas gala concert, by Neighbors in Need, 2 p.m., \$10, \$5 children and seniors, Methuen Memorial Music Hall, 192 Broadway, Methuen; 685-8321.

The Nutcracker, presented by New England Civic Ballet, 3:30 p.m., Lawrence High School, 233 Haverhill St., Lawrence; 975-0289.

Concert, sponsored by Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra, featuring holiday music, wheelchair accessible, 2:30 p.m., \$12, \$8 seniors and students, \$3 children, St. Michael Church, Sixth and Bridge streets, Lowell; 685-3505.

Concert, sponsored by Arthur's Christmas Trees and Decorations, featuring children's entertainer Tom Chapin, children ages 4-9, 2 and 4:30 p.m., \$9, University of Massachusetts Lowell Center for the Arts, Durgin Hall, 35 Wilder St., UMass Lowell South Campus, Lowell; box office (978) 934-4444, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-noon, 1-4 p.m.



Centered individuals - Tom Chapin and musical friends come to Lowell.

Concert, sponsored by Exsultet! chamber choir, 5 p.m., \$10, \$7 seniors, children and students with ID, Holy Trinity United Methodist Church, 16 Sylvan St., Danvers; Richard Larraga (781) 329-1741.

Concert, 2 p.m., *see Friday, Dec. 10, entry.*

Christmas by Candlelight, 6 p.m., *see Saturday, Dec. 11, entry.*

Messiah sing, sponsored by Middlesex Singers, 7:30 p.m., public rehearsal, 8:30 p.m., performance, \$5, First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 2 Westford St., on the Common, Chelmsford; (978) 256-7143 or Shelia Henney 475-1664.

Holiday open house, *see Thursday, Dec. 9, entry.*

Holiday concert, by Northern Essex Community College Chorus and Performance Ensemble, 2 p.m., Bentley Library Conference Area, Elliott Way, Haverhill; Michael Finegold (978) 556-3413.

A Christmas Carol, sponsored by Memorial Hall Library, performed by Kenneth Brooks, tickets available in Children's Room, ages 5 and up, 2 p.m., Elm Square; 623-8401.

Great books discussion, sponsored by Memorial Hall Library, *Emoko* by Skvorecky, 7:30 p.m., Elm Square; 623-8401.

House tour, sponsored by Friends of Andover Senior Center, 2-6 p.m., \$10, Rose Cottage, Chestnut Street; 470-2333.

Babes in Toyland, 3 p.m., *see Friday, Dec. 10, entry.*

Concert, "Music of the Season," by Portsmouth Women's Chorus, 4 p.m., Unitarian Church, Portsmouth, N.H., *see Friday, Dec. 10 entry.*



Season-al gathering - Portsmouth Women's Chorus performs twice this weekend.

MONDAY, Dec. 13

Messiah sing, sponsored by Andover Choral Society, 7:30 p.m., \$5, Free Christian Church, Elm Street; Catherine Bruton 687-8225.

Business meeting, Andover High School Parent Advisory Council, 7 p.m., AHS media center, Shaw-shen Road; Diane Hender 470-0869.

Holiday party, sponsored by Lowell Lock Monsters, free skate and skate rental, refreshments, bring wrapped gift for inner city kids at the party, 6-8 p.m., Tsongas Arena, Lowell; Eric or Brenda (978) 848-6927.

TUESDAY, Dec. 14

Singalong, *Messiah* to benefit CARE, the international relief agency, wheelchair accessible, 8 p.m., \$5, First Parish Church, 225 Cabot St., Beverly; (978) 922-6990.

Talk, sponsored by Northeast Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeology Society, "Mausshop's Site: The Archaeology of Native American Ritualism," 7:30 p.m., Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology, Phillips Academy, Main Street; 749-4490.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 15

Regional meeting, Merrimack Valley Trail Mapping Project, 6-8 p.m., Merrimack Valley Planning Commission offices, 160 Main St., Haverhill; Susan Wessely (978) 374-0519.

The Art of Collecting, sponsored by Memorial Hall Library, slide and talk presentation by auctioneer and antique appraiser Michael Bider, bring antiques to be appraised, 9:30 a.m., Elm Square; 623-8401.

THURSDAY, Dec. 16

B.B. King, 8 p.m., \$38.50, \$32.50, \$26.50, Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell; box office (978) 454-2299.

Holiday open house, *see Thursday, Dec. 9, entry.*

CALENDAR

(Continued from page 28)

FRIDAY, Dec. 17

Holiday fine art show and sale, sponsored by Andovers Artists Guild, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., artists' reception 6:30-9 p.m., Gallery Wilmington, Wilmington Art Center, 219 Middlesex Ave., Route 62.

Holiday open house, see *Thursday, Dec. 9, entry*.

Comedy Escape, featuring Brad Mastrangelo, Jeff Meisler, Harrison Stebbins, 9:30 p.m., \$10-\$12, China Blossom, Routes 125 and 133, North Andover; 1-800-401-2221.

SATURDAY, Dec. 18

The Night the Animals Talked, sponsored by MSPCA Nevins Farm and Equine Centre and MSPCA Small Animal Shelter, 6:30 p.m., \$5 adults, \$2.50 children, MSPCA Carriage Shed, 400 Broadway, Route 28, Methuen; Ray Denis 687-1150 or Calli Towne 687-7453.

Breakfast with Santa, sponsored by Andover Center Association, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Old Town Hall, 20 Main St.; Tom Keefe 475-7872.

Holiday fine art show and sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., see *Friday, Dec. 17, entry*.

Holiday open house, see *Thursday, Dec. 9, entry*.

Comedy Escape, see *Friday, Dec. 17, entry*.

Concert, at New England Bible Church, featuring The Choral Majority gospel choir, 7 p.m., 60 Chandler Road; 475-4381.

SUNDAY, Dec. 19

Hike, sponsored by Appalachian Mountain Club, Appleton Farm in Ipswich-Hamilton, meet 1 p.m. at parking lot off Mill Road; Faith Evans (978) 356-2098.

Holiday fine art show and sale, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m., see *Friday, Dec. 17, entry*.

Holiday open house, see *Thursday, Dec. 9, entry*.

Carol sing along, sponsored by Memorial Hall Library, featuring the Parish Choir of Christ Church, 3 p.m., Elm Square; 623-8401.

Outdoor Christmas pageant, sponsored by West Parish Church, 5 p.m., West Parish

Cemetery Arch, Reservation Road; 475-3528, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Holiday concert, by New England Classical Singers, 3 p.m., \$12 in advance, \$14 at door, South Church, 41 Central St.; 688-2816.

The Night the Animals Talked, see *Saturday, Dec. 18, entry*.



Mr. Ed night? - MSPCA's "The Night the Animal's Talked."

ONGOING

Museums and Historic Homes

Addison Gallery of American Art, Referencing the Past: Six Contemporary Artists, through Jan. 2, 2000, Phillips Academy campus, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday, 1-5 p.m.; (978) 749-4015

Andover Historical Society permanent exhibit Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum, containing period rooms from 1820s to 1840s, with 19th-century farm and wood-working tools, library and office hours 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays, Mondays by appointment; \$4 adults, \$2 children, members free; Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St., 475-2236.

North Andover Historical Society, 153 Academy Road, North Andover, maintains two sites that feature museum galleries: 1789 Johnson Cottage, an artisan's home and workshop, and 1715 Parson Barnard House, depicting life from 1715-1830, 179 Osgood St.

Thursdays, 2-4 p.m., permanent and changing exhibits highlight local life from the 17th- to the 20th century, library and archive, \$3 adults, \$1 children, \$2 seniors, Johnson Cottage, tours Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m., \$5 adults for a combined tour of both properties; 686-4035.

American Textile History Museum, Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., \$5 adults, \$3 seniors, students, includes general museum admission, free for children under 6 and museum members, 491 Dutton St., Lowell; (978) 441-0400.

Lowell National Historic Park, history of the American Industrial Revolution, guided tours of cotton and textile mills, canals, trolley rides, Pawtucket Canal Tour; Working People Exhibit at Patrick J. Mogan Cultural Center; Boott Cotton Mills Museum, open daily, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., \$4 adults, \$2 youth 6-16 and students, senior discount, free children 5 and under; (978) 970-5000.

Canal tours, sponsored by Lowell National Historical Park, Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center, 246 Market St., Lowell; RSVP (978) 970-5000.

Exploring Lowell, join a ranger for a 30- to 90-minute program exploring a variety of Lowell-related topics, all tours are free, 1 p.m., Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center, 246 Market St., Lowell; 970-5000.

New England Quilt Museum, Collectors as Quilters: Gail Binney-Stiles, Bernice McCoy Stone, through Dec. 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-4 p.m. Sundays, \$4, \$3 students/senior citizens, 18 Shattuck St., Lowell; (978) 452-4207.

Peabody Essex Museum, The Real Witchcraft Papers, The Saltonstall Family Portraits, A Folk Art Sampler, all ongoing, *Odyssey: A Journey Into World Art*, through fall 2001, *Gold Coast Treasures*, through Jan. 31, 2000, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday noon-5 p.m. \$8.50 adults, \$7.50 seniors, students, \$5 children ages 6-16, free, children 5 and under, \$20 family rate, Phillips Library, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday 1-8 p.m. Liberty and Essex streets, Salem, Mass.; (978) 745-9500 or (800) 745-4054.

Cushing House Museum, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., \$4 adults, \$1.50 children under 12, members free, 98 High St., Newburyport; (978) 462-2681.

American Textile History Museum, Dressed for the Part: Hollywood Costumes from the Silver Screen, through March 12, 2000, wheelchair accessible, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., \$10 adults, \$7 seniors, students, group members; free for children under 6, 491 Dutton St., Lowell; (978) 441-0400.



Pick of the litter - Hollywood's prized costumes, including the dress worn by Mary Pickford in *Dorothy Vernon of Hadden Hall*.

Custom House Maritime Museum, Coping with Crisis: Cushing Shipping and Diplomacy, The Newburyport Waterfront: Pasts and Futures, through Dec. 23, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, 1-4 p.m., \$3 adults, \$2 seniors and children ages 5-17, members free, operated by Newburyport Maritime Society, 25 Water St., Newburyport; Cynthia Novotny (978) 462-9681.

Wenham Museum, Les Petites Dames de Mode, through Jan. 9; *Wenham Ice Industry*, through February, *What's Next: Artist's View of the Next Millennium*, through Feb. 6. Please (CALENDAR continued on page 30)

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Mechanics Hall, Worcester
Dec. 12, 2:30 & 6:30

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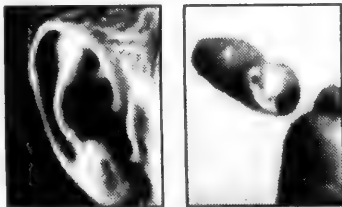
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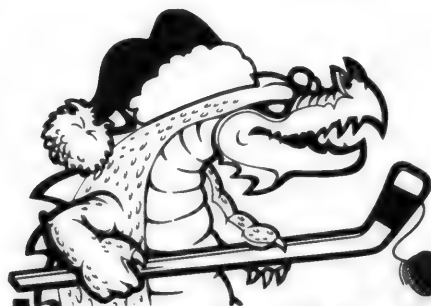


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CALENDAR

(Continued from page 29)

Be Seated: Fine Furniture Making in America, Jan. 22-April 16, Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., \$4, \$3.50 seniors, \$2 children 3 and over, handicap accessible, 132 Main St. (Route 1A), Wenham; (978) 468-2377.

Art Exhibitions

Andovers Artists Guild, 32 Andover and North Andover artists display work at Stevens Memorial Library meeting room, Main Street, North Andover; Suburban Health Care Center, Doctor's Park I; Old Town Hall, 20 Main St; and Bishop's Restaurant, Lawrence; James Cassidey 688-0633 or Carol Boileau 683-9933.

Bravos Arts Gallery, group show, through December, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday-Saturday, 1 East Main St., Georgetown Square, Georgetown; (978) 352-8102.

Brush Art Gallery, Vassilios "Bill" Giavis: Survey of a Copley Master, through Jan. 16, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 256 Market St., Lowell; (978) 459-7819.

Arthur Griffin Center for Photographic Art, amateur and professional photographers of all ages, through Jan. 21, Tuesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m., wheelchair accessible, \$3, 67 Shore Road, Winchester; (781) 729-1158.

Robert Lehman Art Center, *Interiors: Oil Paintings by Sarah B. Vespermann*, through Dec. 15, Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-noon; Sunday, 2:30-5 p.m., Brooks School, 1160 Great Pond Road, North Andover; Michael B. King (978) 725-6232.

Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery, works selected as gift-giving, through Jan. 2, Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 136 State St., Portsmouth, N.H.; (603) 431-4230.

Mingo Gallery, *Works in Oils, Mixed Media, Acrylic, Bronze, Marble and Landscape Photography*, through Dec. 10, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 252 Cabot St., Beverly; (978) 927-5964.

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Senior Center artists, talented artists participate in art classes and enjoy the "drop-in group" on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, art display of oils, watercolors, pencil, pen and ink, pastels and oriental brush art is in the Music Room; Andover Senior Center, Whittier Court, 623-8321.

Theatre

A Christmas Carol, Dec. 11, 12, 18, 19, 22, 23, 2 p.m., Dec. 10, 11, 17, 18, 21, 22, 8 p.m., \$32-\$44, North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly; (978) 232-7200.

A Christmas Carol, featuring The Valley Players, through Dec. 22, Thursday-Saturday, 7 p.m. dinner, 8:30 p.m. show, Sunday dinner 5 p.m., show 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4, and Sundays, Dec. 5, 12, 19, noon dinner, 1 p.m. show, family shows Dec. 20-22, 6:30 p.m., show-only \$10.50-\$12.50, dinner-show, \$22-\$30, Amesbury Playhouse, 194 Main St., Amesbury; (978) 388-9444.



A Tiny appearance - Tim and company come to life, in Amesbury.

It Runs in the Family, featuring the Quannapowitt Players, Dec. 10, 11, 8 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m., \$12/\$11 seniors and students, 55 Hopkins St., Reading; (781) 942-2212.

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play, presented by Theater in the Open, Dec. 16-Jan. 2, Thursday-Saturday, 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 18, 3 p.m., Wednesdays, Dec. 23 and 30, 8 p.m., Sundays, Dec. 19, 26 and Jan. 2, 3 p.m., no shows Dec. 24, 25, Jan. 1, \$13, \$11, students and seniors, The Firehouse Center for the Performing Art, Market Square, Newburyport; (978) 465-2572.

The Nutcracker, Boston Ballet, through Jan. 2, \$12-\$59, Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston; Telecharge (800-447-7400).

The Nutcracker, Ballet Theatre of Boston, through Dec. 23, \$29, \$23, \$19, \$9, Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston; MajesTix (617) 824-8000.

The Nutcracker, Dec. 11-19, Chevalier Theater, Forest St., Medford; (781) 665-2235.

The Rainmaker, through Dec. 26, Wednesday-Saturday, 8 p.m., Sunday, 2 and 7 p.m., \$18.50-\$32.50, Saturday, Dec. 4, 3 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 23, 2 p.m., Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell; (978) 454-3926.

Meetings/Activities

Adult children of alcoholics discussion meeting, Sunday, 10-11:30 a.m., Emerson Hospital Health Cen-

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CALENDAR

(Continued from page 30)

ter, Route 110, Westford; (978) 251-3329 or (978) 448-5002.

Al-Anon literature study group, Fridays, 10:30 a.m.-noon, St. Anne's Church, King Street, Littleton; (978) 256-9391 or (978) 448-5002.

Al-Anon 12 step meeting, Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-noon, St. William's Church, Route 38, Tewksbury; (978) 256-9391.

Andover Great Books Group, meets second and fourth Tuesdays of month, discusses book of the week, activity room, Memorial Hall Library, 7:30-9 p.m.; Jean McGreehan 667-9610.

Andover Choral Society, all voice parts welcome to join, auditions not required, rehearsals held Mondays, 7:20 p.m., Christ Church, Central Street; Cathy Bruton 687-8225.

BNI Business Network International, Wednesdays, 7:30 a.m., Denny's, Route 114, Lawrence; Edna (978) 640-8919 or Steve (978) 975-1328.

Bridge game and lessons, Wednesdays, 7:15 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 6 Locke St.; (603) 382-0123 J. J. Zamierowski.

Adult Learning Center, 243 South Broadway, Lawrence, offers free citizenship classes Monday and Wednesday, 12:30-3:30 p.m.; Karen Sheridan 975-5917.

Al-Anon, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., St. William's Church basement, Main Street, Tewksbury; Dottie 851-7655.

Kenoza TOPS, for people interested in losing weight, Thursday meetings, 6-6:30 p.m., \$1 weekly dues, Haverhill Alliance Church; Shirley (978) 373-1825, Charlene (978) 346-4018 or Carol (603) 382-6146.

Learning in Retirement Association (LIRA), an organization for retirees and semiretired, meets every Monday during spring semester for seminars in world religions and world politics of the future, every Tuesday for seminars in art appreciation and every Thursday for seminars in foreign policy and science and technology, UMass-Lowell, Fox Hall, North Campus; (978) 3135.

Memorial Hall Library, book discussion every fourth Monday of the month, 7 p.m., Activity Room, Elm Square; Nan Stevens 683-7377.

Men's woodcarving group meets on Mondays at 9 a.m. on a drop-in basis at Andover Senior Center, 36 Bartlett St.; 623-8321.

Newcomers Club of the Andovers, social club for residents of Andover and North Andover, variety of activities, open to new and established residents; Dawn Kraskey 749-9558; or Beth Friedberg 794-7660.

North Shore Chorus of Sweet Adelines, Mondays, 7:30 p.m., First Lutheran Church, 280 Broadway, Lynn; Becky Christie (978) 745-8340 or Gloria Kozlosky (617) 233-5732.

Merrimack Valley Camera Club, Wednesdays, 7:15 p.m., Trinitarian Congregational Church, 72 Elm St., North Andover; Sarah Musumeci 688-1116.

Country-western dancing, Moose Lodge, North

Street, North Reading, Fridays, 7:30 p.m.-midnight, couples and line-dance lessons, \$5 donation; Ken (978) 772-2195, or 664-2721.

Folk dance, Skirts and Flirts Square Dance Club, weekly Thursday classes, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Shawsheen Elementary School, Shawsheen and Hopkins streets (Route 12), Wilmington; (978) 658-4022 or 658-3480.

Lowell Opera Company rehearsals Mondays, 7:30 p.m., new members welcome, auditions not required, First United Baptist Church, Church Street, Lowell; Vita Selvaggio (978) 453-3610.

The Merrimacks Toastmasters Club, second and fourth Mondays of month, guests welcome, 7 p.m., Prescott House Nursing Home, North Andover; Roger Dumont (603) 894-6683, Liz Anderson 474-9283.

Merrimack Valley Camera Club, meets every Wednesday, 7:15 p.m., visitors welcome, Trinitarian Congregational Church, Elm Street, North Andover; Sarah Musumeci 688-1116.

Merrimack Valley Chapter of Embroiders Guild, third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., Tewksbury Congregational Church, Main and East streets, Tewksbury; Elizabeth Brown (508) 877-1827.

Newburyport Civil War Roundtable, meets first Monday each month, Ten Center Street Restaurant, 10 Center St., Newburyport, 7:30 p.m., Victoria Ladd 373-1723, or Kevin Brightney 465-2215.

Merrimack Valley Chorus of Sweet Adelines, rehearsals Thursdays 7:30 p.m., Wilmington Arts Council Building, Route 62, Reading; (978) 851-7764.

Methuen Community Band rehearses every other Thursday 7-9 p.m., all instruments and levels of skills welcome, band room, Methuen High School, 1 Ranger Road, Methuen; Lori (978) 794-1973.

Mother Connection, a non-profit organization serving parents and children, offers playspace for children under 5 Tuesday and Friday 9:30-11 a.m. when school is in session, babysitting cooperative, new mother coffee, book discussion group, rhyme time Fridays at 11 a.m., \$25 one year; 470-1500.

Newburyport Choral Society rehearses Mondays, 7:30-10 p.m., Central Congregational Church, corner of Pleasant and Titcomb streets, Newburyport; (978) 462-0650.

New Beginnings, interfaith singles support group, directed by Camille Gianaris, MDiv., of Andover, Wednesdays, Christ Church United in Lowell, 1 Bartlett St., Lowell; (978) 459-9631.

North Reading Community Chorale invites anyone who enjoys singing to join their rehearsals Mondays at 7:30 p.m., at Hood School, Haverhill Street, North

Reading; (978) 664-3594.

North Regional Theatre Workshop, forming adult choral group to sing show tunes and classic popular songs, Wilmington High School Auditorium, Route 62, Wilmington; 681-0355.

North Shore Chorus of Sweet Adelines International, welcomes women over 18, rehearsals every Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Lutheran Church, 280 Broadway, Wyoma Square, Lynn; Gloria Kozlosky (617) 233-5732 or Pat Fitzgerald (617) 324-1484.

North Shore Singles, dances Thursday, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, singles ages 35-55, 8 p.m.-midnight, Andover Street Grille, 356 Andover St., Route 114, Danvers; (978) 777-4400.

Pre-Alateen, for ages 6-12, Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., Pines of Tewksbury, 2580 Main St., Tewksbury; Dottie 851-7655.

Renew, bereavement support group of Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice of Greater Lowell, third Thursday of month, Cancer Ctr., Lowell General Hospital, 295 Varnum Ave., Lowell; Marie Jennings, (978) 459-9343, Ext. 783.

Sacred Choral Artists, performs sacred music throughout the ages, Mondays, 7 p.m., Haverhill; Ann Fagen (603) 642-7116.

Safe Place, for those who have lost a loved one or friend to suicide, meets second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 7-9:30 p.m., The Samaritans, 169 East St., Methuen; 688-0030.

Single Eights Square Dance Club, 6 p.m., \$5 donation, First Calvary Baptist Church, Massachusetts Avenue and Route 125, North Andover; Carol (978) 851-7876.

Smoking cessation classes, Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m., Holy Family Hospital Board Room, 70 East St., Methuen; 687-0156, ext. 2720.

Sons of Norway, Morgensolen #545,

meets second Friday of month, September-May, Masonic Temple, Beverly; Valerie C. Faxon (978) 462-2439.

Soul retrieval class, six weeks, Wednesdays 7-9 p.m., Imagine Studios, 29 Maine St., Amesbury, Thursdays, 7:15-9:45 p.m., Circles of Wisdom Bookstore, 90 Main St., Andover, \$150; M. Leontine Hartzell 475-1268.

Square-dancing, teens, couples, and singles, Mondays, Amvets Hall, Primrose Street, Haverhill, 8 p.m.; Jeanne (617) 279-4328 or Eddie 774-7266.

The Single Life Reading chapter, open to singles over age 21, Andover meetings; Nigel 794-4427.

The Social Connection (TSC), a singles group for ages 30-60; (800) 628-7651.

South Asia book discussion group, meets second Thursday of month, 7:30 p.m., Memorial Hall Library, Elm Square; Champa Bilwakesh 475-3346 or Norma Gammon 623-8400.

Tewksbury Treble Chorus of New England, children ages 7-17, rehearses weekly, call for audition; (978) 837-5461.

Treble Chorus of New England, auditions Tuesdays, ages 6-16, Merrimack College, Turnpike Street, North Andover; Anne 837-5461.

Turkey Town Trotters Square Dance Club, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Knights of Columbus Hall, Sutton Street, North Andover; 682-3280 or 682-2403.

Yankee Doodle Cloggers, for ages 7-70+, meets Mondays, Union Congregational Church, 148 Haverhill St., North Reading; Claire (978) 667-2752.

Young Widows and Widowers, non-sectarian mutual help organization during bereavement and readjustment period, meets weekly Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m., or second and fourth Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., Marland Place, 15 Stevens St.; Francine Fuller 475-8186.

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Living

West Parish Church presents the 23rd annual Christmas Pageant on Dec. 19

Andover residents Lucy and Troy Nielsen and their son, Myles, will play the parts of Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus at the 23rd annual outdoor Christmas pageant of West Parish Church on Sunday, Dec. 19, at 5 p.m.

The West Parish Cemetery Arch becomes the entrance to Bethlehem for this reenactment, with a cast of more than 50 children and adults and a stable of animals.

This Andover tradition recreates the shepherds and wise men, young and old, littlest angel and drummer boy all finding their way to the inn. Through drama, narration and carols the audience shares in the miracle as Mary and Joseph arrive in Bethlehem, the shepherds seek out the manger, and the wise men bring their gifts.

Many families, such as the Jordans of Andover, make it a family affair. Laura Jordan will be the narrator, while Tom Jordan is responsible for stable construction and artwork. Their daughters, Haley and Marianna, will be among the cast members making their way to the stable to see the babe in the manger. "We've participated in the pageant for every year since we've been here," says Laura. "It's wonderful to

Many local residents will be among the more than 50 children and adults, along with a stable of animals, at the 23rd annual outdoor Christmas pageant at West Parish Church on Sunday, Dec. 19. ►

be a part of such a rich community tradition that so beautifully expresses the true meaning of the season. I encourage all to attend."

The West Parish Church choir will lead the audience in carols throughout the narration, led by Eunice Kim, music director. Carolyn Mallick and Kim Glesmann are co-directing the production. Tim Turbett will play the part of the innkeeper. More than 100 members of West Parish Church participate in the production in the cast and back stage. Live animals join in the procession, with Mary riding on a donkey and shepherds herding their sheep.

The public is invited to attend the pageant and fes-



tivities immediately afterwards in Fellowship Hall. The pageant itself lasts approximately 30 minutes. Refreshments will be served.

West Parish Church is located at 129 Reservation

(SOCIAL NOTEBOOK continued on page 44)

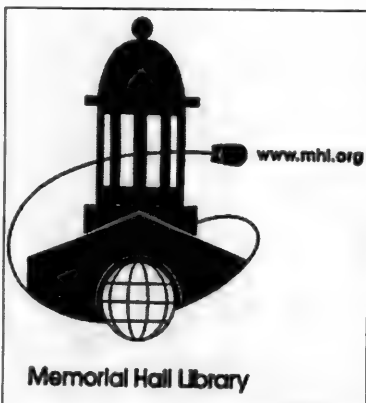
MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY NEWS

By Norma Gammon Community Services Librarian

The library has the following activities planned during the month of December.

Christ Church Choir to carol at the library

The Parish Choir of Christ Church will present a program of Christmas carols at Memorial Hall Library on Sunday, Dec. 19, at 3 p.m. The performance will be led by Paulette Grundeen, organist and music director at Christ Church. This presentation will be an old-fashioned "carol-sing" with the audience joining with the choir to sing well-known,



favorite carols. Grundeen said, "The choir loves carols and is looking forward to this performance."

The Christ Church Choir is one of three musical perform-

ing groups at the church. The volunteer choir consists of about 16 church members, mostly people from Andover and North Andover.

December is pottery, collectibles and porcelain month

The display cases throughout the library will be filled with porcelain by Myong Jung, pottery by Audrey Bensley, creative food pieces by Linda Berube, and glass and pottery chickens by Lora Horsley.

Auctioneer and antique appraiser Michael Bider will present a program on "The Art of Collecting" Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 9:30 a.m. Bider has been in the antique business since the early '70s. Bring one of your antiques for him to appraise.

An afternoon with Charles Dickens

In a performance of *A Christmas Carol*, Sunday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m., Tiny Tim and the rest of the famous cast of characters will be brought to life in this Living History, Living Literature reenactment per-

.....
◀ **Scrooge-Free Zone** — The Parish Choir of Christ Church.

formed by Kenneth Brooks. The program is especially recommended for ages 5 and up.

Tickets are available from the Children's Room.

All cultural events are sponsored by the Friends of the library and are free.

Artist of the month

Pastel landscapes by Theresa McCue will be on display this month.

Bold, simplified compositions underscore the artist's interest in light and her use of color.

McCue states that over the years she has developed an intuitive sense of how to use color, but now is making more calculated decisions about how to manipulate it.

The North Andover resident has exhibited throughout the New England area.

Morning book discussion

Monday, Dec. 20, 10:30 a.m.
Divine Secrets of the Ya Ya Sisterhood, Rebecca Wells

Great Books

Emcke, Skvorecky, Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m.



A light touch — Theresa McCue's pastel landscapes are on exhibit this month at the library.

Vision Support Group

Group meets Dec. 10, 7 p.m.

Children's Room news

Filmstrips, Saturday at 10 a.m. — Preschoolers and their parents are invited to take a trip to the land of the picture book. From the library's extensive collection of film strips, an informal half hour of stories is projected on the big screen. Dec. 11, *Morris' Disappearing Bag*, *Polar Express*, *The Night Before Christmas*. No registration is required.

For more information, call 623-8401.



NEWS FOR SENIORS

By Pat Becker

Here are some of the activities planned at the Andover Senior Center.

Creative cooking

An Italian Christmas Eve feast will be prepared by cooking teacher Ed Alessi on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 11:30 a.m. A gift swap is one of the highlights of this special annual luncheon with Ed. Call the senior center for more information. Space is limited.

Movie matinee

The movie *Jack Frost* will be shown Monday, Dec. 20, at 1 p.m. Michael Keaton stars in the story of a kindly but often absent dad and the ultimate sacrifice he makes to be there for his young son. Holiday refreshments will follow the movie.

Poinsettia, cookie and crafts sale

Donations of cookies are needed for the plant and cookie sale Friday, Dec. 17. Poinsettias, Christmas cactus, holiday crafts and gift items will also be available.

Winter session

The winter session of strength training, men's exercise, tai chi, aerobics, line dance, yoga and chi gung will begin the week of Dec. 12. Call the center.

Senior Center gift certificates

Senior Center gift certificates can be issued in any amount and are good for any trips, special event, class or course offered by the center. Special certificates for massage therapy or reiki

treatment are also available.

Christmas coffee/open house

Drop by the center for refreshments and good cheer Thursday, Dec. 23, between 9 and 11 a.m. Friends and family members are welcome.

Pot luck lunch

Sign up to bring a favorite dish to a pot luck lunch Thursday, Dec. 30, at noon and toast not just the new year, but the new millennium as well.

Andover's New Year's Eve celebration

An ecumenical prayer service will begin the townwide celebration at South Church at 4 p.m. There will be cultural events, the Mary Karl Band, dancing, food court and events for the

whole family. A \$10 button purchased at the center will admit its wearer to all events.

Christmas at Rose Cottage

A holiday house tour of the Rose Cottage will be held Sunday, Dec. 12, from 2 to 6 p.m. The proceeds of \$10 per person will benefit the building fund for the new senior center. Reservations are necessary and may be made by calling 470-2333.

\$1,000 club winners

John Andreadis won \$1,000 with \$100 to Virginia Maruzzi and \$50 each to Nancy MacVicar, Thelma Verda, Kenneth Demers and Ralph Manning. Agent award-winners were Edna Powell and Charles Waldie.

EVENTS CALENDAR INFORMATION

- Listings are published covering two weekends whenever space permits.
- Events listings are due **NO LATER THAN NOON ON MONDAY** of each weekly issue.
- Early submission (minimum of 2 weeks before the event) is encouraged, especially by regular contributors of news & calendar listings.
- Priority is given to events taking place in Andover.
- To receive a calendar listing form, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:
EVENTS CALENDAR, 33 Chestnut St., Andover 01810.
- Please TYPE OR PRINT all information.
- QUESTIONS?
Call 978/475-7000
Fax 978/470-2819
E-mail: jgrady@andovertownsmen.com

RELIGION NEWS

Advent Vespers Service at West Parish Church

West Parish Church will hold a special Advent Vespers Service in the Chapel in West Parish Cemetery on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 5 p.m.

The service is under the direction of the Rev. Mark Welch, senior pastor, and the Rev. Bonnie Stagg, associate pastor, who is also a chaplain to Middlesex East Hospice.

Come to the chapel via the entrance on Lowell Street (Route 133). For more infor-

mation, call Rev. Stagg at 475-3528, or Dr. Suetta Tenney at 475-8566.

Hanukkah music program Friday at Temple Emanuel

Hanukkah festivities at Temple Emanuel will conclude with the lighting of the eighth and final candle on the menorah tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 10. The shabbat and festival service will begin at 7:30 p.m. and include special

musical selections by the Temple Choir, Junior Choir, Cantor Donn and Daniel Rosensweig and Joyce Painter Rice, organist and choir director.

The music will range from the 16th- through 19th century classical choral works to contemporary folks songs.

Cantor Rosensweig will lead a holiday singalong. All are welcome to the service and to share in the Oneg Shabbat refreshments after-

(Continued on page 44)

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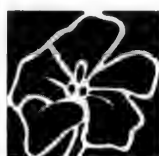
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OBITUARIES

Marilyn D. MacKenzie Longtime Andover resident

Marilyn D. (Locke) MacKenzie, 68, of West Harwich and Vero Beach, Fla., died Monday, Nov. 29, at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Mrs. MacKenzie was born in Boston and raised and educated in North Quincy. After her graduation from North Quincy High School in 1949, she studied drama and voice at Leland Powers in Boston. She transferred to Boston University and received a degree in education in 1954.

Mrs. MacKenzie married in 1953 and moved to Weymouth. She taught fourth grade in the Abington school system for several years before she moved to New Jersey, Georgia and New York.

She settled in Andover in 1968 and was a substitute teacher in Reading while her children were young.

Mrs. MacKenzie became an assistant activities director at a nursing home in Lawrence during the 1970s.

She was a member and past president of the Village Garden Club in Andover.

Mrs. MacKenzie moved to West Harwich in 1991 and for the past five years divided her time between Harwich and Vero Beach, Fla. She was a member of the Harwich Garden Club and Cranberry Golf Group and chairperson of the Harwich Beautification

Committee. She had been a volunteer at the children's theater in West Harwich and was a member of Pilgrim Congregational Church.

Mrs. MacKenzie had a passion for the ocean and sailing, and enjoyed bird-watching and singing, particularly in church choirs.

Members of her family include her husband, Earl MacKenzie Jr. of West Harwich; son, Kenneth E. MacKenzie of Andover; daughter, Deborah L. Evans, also of Andover; stepmother, Mildred Locke of Vero Beach, Fla., and one granddaughter.

A funeral service was held Saturday in Pilgrim Congregational Church in Harwich Port. Interment was in Mount Wollaston cemetery in Quincy.

Arrangements were by Doane, Beal & Ames in West Harwich.

Memorial contributions may be made to Jimmy Fund, 44 Binney St., Boston, MA 02115; or to American Cancer Society, 1115 W. Chestnut St., Brockton, MA 02401.

David H. Batchelder Was a real estate appraiser and local full-time firefighter

David H. Batchelder, 68, of Danville, Vt., died at a hospital in St. Johnsbury, Vt., Sunday, Dec. 6.

Mr. Batchelder was born in Andover, the son of Sidney and Isabelle (Gamble) Batchelder. He grad-

uated from Punchard High School in 1949 and served in the Navy during peacetime.

The Batchelders lived on Lowell Street until they moved to Vermont three years ago. Winters were recently spent at their Ft. Pierce, Fla., residence.

Mr. Batchelder was a real estate appraiser for the town of Burlington, Mass., and a full-time firefighter for the Andover Fire Department.

He retired as a consultant to the Ayer town assessors.

Mr. Batchelder was a longtime Belmont town appraiser and past president of Middlesex County and State of Massachusetts assessors associations.

He participated in the founding of Andover Elks Lodge B.P.O.E. 2198 where he was a past exalted ruler and served as past district deputy to the grand exalted ruler on a district level.

Members of his family include his wife, Louise (Moore) Batchelder of Danville, Vt.; daughters, Wanda Batchelder of Andover, Beth Ouellette of Howie-in-the-Hills, Fla., and her husband, Joseph Ouellette, and Trudie Baker of West Danville, Vt., and her husband, Jack Baker; brother, Loring of Lexington; sisters, Gertrude Batchelder of East Dennis and Priscilla Tynning of Lawrence; sister-in-law, Helen "Nellie" Batchelder of Andover; one granddaughter; and nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at West Parish Church.

Burial was in Spring Grove Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Sayles Funeral Home in St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Memorial contributions may be made to Camp Silver Towers, care of Elks B.P.O.E., 118 Western Ave., St. Johnsbury, VT 05819.

Deaths Elsewhere

GARLAND - Gertrude D. (Dumas) Garland, 93, died Friday, Dec. 3, at Wingate at Andover.

Members of her family include her sister, Elizabeth Dumas of Andover.

LANOUE - Rose A. (Dion) Lanouette, 90, of Methuen died Tuesday, Dec. 7, at Sutton Hill Nursing Center.

Members of her family include her sister, Jeannette Guerra of Andover.

MENCIS - Bert Israel Mencis, 94, of Haverhill died Thursday, Dec. 2, at Hale Hospital.

Members of his family include his son and daughter-in-law, Lester D. and Cynthia Mencis of Andover.

MUTCH - George R. Mutch Sr., 81, of Salem, Mass., died Monday, Dec. 6, at Nevins Center in Methuen.

Members of his family include his son, Scott D. Mutch of Andover.

RUNGE - Robert E. Runge, 65, of Salem, N.H., died Saturday, Dec. 4, at Veterans Medical Center in Jamaica Plain, Boston.

Members of his family include his mother, Rachel Runge, and brother, Wallace Runge, both of Andover.

SHANK - Yvonne M. (Patry) Shank, 95, died Friday, Dec. 3, at Wingate at Andover.

Lillian N. Boland Enjoyed traveling, reading and line dancing

Lillian N. (Elder) Boland, 86, died Sunday, Dec. 5, at Academy Manor Nursing Home.

Mrs. Boland was born and educated in Andover.

She worked at Marland Mills in Andover and John W. Barry Co. in Lawrence until she retired.

She lived at St. Alfio's Villa in Lawrence until this year.

Mrs. Boland enjoyed traveling, reading and line dancing.

Members of her family include her brothers-in-law, Arthur Reason of Saco, Maine, and John F. Lyons Jr. of Andover; sisters-in-law, M. Florence Boland of Lawrence and Marjorie Crossley of Andover and her husband, John F. Crossley.

She was the widow of William D. Boland.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at John Breen Memorial Funeral Home in Lawrence.

Burial was in Spring Grove Cemetery.

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OBITUARIES

Fernande Duchesne

Enjoyed crocheting, shopping, sewing, and being with family

Fernande (Audy) Duchesne, 84, of Andover died Sunday, Dec. 5, at home after a long struggle with Alzheimer's Disease.

Mrs. Duchesne was born and educated in Lawrence.

She worked at Liggetts Pharmacy and in other retail sales positions in Greater Lawrence.

Mrs. Duchesne attended Sacred Heart Church in Lawrence.

She enjoyed crocheting, shopping, sewing and socializing with her family.

Members of her family include her daughter, Linda Scherig of Andover, with whom she lived; one sister-in-law, and several nieces and nephews.

She was the widow of Gerald Duchesne.

Services will be private and at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements are by Arthur Scott Funeral Home in Lawrence.

Memorial contributions may be made to Holy Family Hospital, 70 East St., Methuen, MA 01844; or to Alzheimer's Association, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge, MA 02139.

John C. Garabedian Sr.

Co-founder of Precision Communications, Aim Telephone

John C. Garabedian Sr., 66, of Andover died Wednesday, Dec. 1, at Lawrence General Hospital.

Mr. Garabedian was born in Lawrence, educated in Andover schools and attended Pynchard High.

He was co-founder of Precision Communications and Aim Telephone, which started about 1969. He retired in 1988.

Mr. Garabedian was a member of Cedardale Health Club and attended St. Augustine Church.

He enjoyed gardening and working in his yard.

Members of his family include his wife, Eileen (Conley) Garabedian of Andover; son, John C. Garabedian Jr., also of Andover; daughter and son-in-law, Kimberly and Michael P. Driscoll of Lawrence; two grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was said Saturday in St. Patrick Church in Lawrence. Burial was in Spring Grove Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Cataudella Funeral

Late Deaths

KENNEDY - Angelina W. Kennedy, 84, of Rye, N.H., died Tuesday, Dec. 7, at her home after a six-month battle with cancer.

She was born in Manchester, N.H., on May 12, 1915, and was the daughter of the late John and Karolina (Wresila) Pitula.

She resided in Andover from 1955 to 1975 before moving to Hampton, N.H., and had lived in Rye since 1994.

She was married for 30 years to the late John Kennedy, who died in 1972.

Calling hours will be held from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 10, at the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home, 811 Lafayette Road, Hampton, N.H.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Theresa Church, Rye Beach, this Saturday, Dec. 11, at 10 a.m. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Dover, N.H.

Memorial contributions may be made to Seacoast Hospice, 10 Hampton Road, Exeter, NH 03833.

Home in Methuen.

Memorial contributions may be made to Creative Living Inc., 368 S. Main St., Andover 01810.

Robert P. McGee

Lived here 21 years

Robert P. McGee, 69, of Lynnfield died Tuesday, Nov. 30, at Elmhurst Nursing Home in Melrose, after a long illness.

Mr. McGee was brought up in Watertown and went to St. Clement's High School in Somerville.

Before he moved to Lynnfield two years ago, he had lived in East Boston for a few years, in Melrose for 13 years, and in Andover for 21 years.

Mr. McGee was director of operations of Miller Engineering & Testing in Manchester, N.H., for many years.

The Army DAV Korean War veteran was a member of the National DAV.

He was a longtime coach and former director of Melrose Pop Warner Football and former president of Middlesex Pop Warner Football League.

Members of his family include his wife, Frances D. (Bage) McGee of Lynnfield; sons and daughters-in-law, Robert G. and Phyllis McGee of Lynnfield and Joseph V. and Carey McGee of Scarsdale, N.Y.; sisters, Patricia Anderson of Florida, Joanne Draper of Millis and Margaret McGee of Maine; brothers, Thomas McGee of Abington and George McGee of Scituate; two grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He was the father of the late Linda McGee and brother of the late Richard McGee.

A funeral Mass was said Saturday in The Church of the Incarnation in Melrose. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett.

Arrangements were by Gately Funeral Home in Melrose.

Memorial contributions may be made to Melrose VNA, 50 Tremont St., Melrose, MA 02176; or to the charity of one's choice.

Sister Anne Marie Lyons

Had been a Sister of Charity of Halifax for 43 years

Sister Anne Marie Lyons, S.C.H., 63, of Crescent Drive died Friday, Dec. 3, at home.

Sister Anne Marie was born in Lawrence and graduated from St. Patrick High School and Mt. St. Vincent College in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She had been a Sister of Charity of Halifax for 43 years.

Sister Anne Marie began teaching at St. Sebastian School in Woodside, N.Y., and then at St. Peter School in Dorchester. She came to St. Michael School in North Andover in 1969 and taught first grade. She was at Presentation of Mary School of Montessori from 1974 to 1978. Sister Anne Marie returned to St. Michael School and became director of religious education until 1994 and then held that position at St. Mary of the Annunciation in Melrose.

Sister Anne Marie was a member of St. Patrick Church in Lawrence.

Members of her family include her mother, Eva (Sutcliffe) Lyons of Lawrence; brothers and sisters-in-law, Daniel and Noreen Lyons of Salem, N.H., William and Helen Lyons of Centerville, and David and Lorraine of Lawrence; uncle, Arnold Sutcliffe of Lawrence; several nieces, nephews, cousins, grandnieces and grandnephews.

A funeral Mass was said Monday in St. Patrick Church. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in North Andover.

Arrangements were by Dewhirst and Conte Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mt. St. Vincent, Wellesley, MA 02482.

Guillermo Romanat

Director of 'Operation Bootstrap' program

Guillermo Romanat, 86, of Andover died Wednesday, Dec. 1.

Mr. Romanat was born and educated in Puerto Rico.

He moved to New York City in 1931 and attended Ochoki School of Navigation, Hanzlik Aviation School Aviation School of Technology and Fairchild Aviation Corp. School.

Mr. Romanat was a licensed aircraft pilot, ground instructor for aircraft engines and aerial navigation. He worked for the federal government for 20 years and retired in 1971 as a director of "Operation Bootstrap" program, which promoted the economic development of Puerto Rico.

Mr. Romanat moved to Andover in 1974 from South Miami. He worked at the Environmental Protection Agency in Boston, where he was awarded the special achievement award for high quality performance.

He enjoyed aerial photography and classical music.

Members of his family include his daughter, Maria Habeeb of Andover; three grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

He was the widower of Christine Carroll Romanat.

A memorial Mass was said Saturday in St. Augustine Church.

Arrangements were by Dewhirst & Conte Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Anna M. Hetherington

Lived here for last 4 years

Anna M. (Genter) Hetherington, 93, died Sunday, Dec. 5, at Wingate at Andover Health Care Facility.

Mrs. Hetherington was born in Boston and grew up in Roxbury. She graduated from the Academy of Notre Dame and received her teacher's training at Boston Normal School.

Mrs. Hetherington taught elementary grades in East Boston, Jamaica Plain and West Roxbury for more than 30 years until she retired in 1976 at the age of 70.

She was a member of Holy Name Parish and the parish Bernardines and was involved with the Holy Name Band.

Mrs. Hetherington moved to North Andover 12 years ago to live with her son. She had lived in Andover for the last four years.

Members of her family include her sons, James V. Hetherington of North Andover, Carl Hetherington of Irvington, N.Y., Paul Hetherington of Hyde Park, and Mark Hetherington of Natick; and four granddaughters.

She was the widow of James V. Hetherington.

Calling hours were scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 8, from 7 to 9 p.m. at P.E. Murray Funeral Home, 2000 Centre St., West Roxbury.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be said today, Thursday, Dec. 9, in Holy Name (Lower) Church in West Roxbury. Burial will be in the family lot in Mount Benedict Cemetery in West Roxbury.

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Business

Business briefs ...

Chamber sets marketing mixer

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, Andover Country Club and Bank Boston will present a holiday marketing mixer Tuesday, Dec. 14, at Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St., from 5 to 7 p.m.

The event will feature complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages, display tables, and raffles.

The cost is \$8 per person, two for \$10. For more information or reservations, call the Chamber at 686-0900.

Also, the Chamber's Human Resource Association will present HR Games Thursday, Dec. 16, from noon-2:30 p.m. at Stevens Estate at Osgood Hill, 723 Osgood St., North Andover.

HR Games will combine the games of Family Feud and Jeopardy to test teams' knowledge of human resources-related issues, such as employment laws, compensation, benefits and recruitment.

The cost is \$15 members, \$20 non-members. RSVP by Tuesday, Dec. 14. Call the Chamber at 686-0900.

Aldrich named CEO of Alpha Industries

Alpha Industries Inc. announced that David Aldrich, of Andover, has been elected president and chief operating officer. Aldrich was executive vice president and general manager of the wireless semiconductor operations. He will report to Tom Leonard, who was reelected chief executive officer and named vice chairman.



David Aldrich

Aldrich will oversee all operations of Alpha, which has a work force of 950 employees, located at its semiconductor facility in Woburn and its ceramics subsidiary in Adamstown, Md.

George Kariotis, chairman of Alpha's board of directors, said, "Dave will now take on an expanded role, directing all of Alpha's operations and working with Tom on strategic initiatives, including acquisitions and positioning Alpha for the future. I speak for the entire board when I say that Alpha has the management to carry us into the 21st century."

Leonard said, "Dave Aldrich reshaped Alpha into a world-class wireless semiconductor manufacturer and a successful, dynamic company. I recommended Dave for this expanded role, and I am pleased and excited that all of Alpha will now benefit from his vision, drive and ability."

Aldrich said, "Alpha is well-positioned

(Continued on page 38)

New Web firm seeks Andover merchants

A Web company launched just a month ago that says it is aimed at helping "bricks-and-mortar" merchants draw more customers into their stores has already signed up some Andover merchants.

But Woburn-based Eversave.com may have engaged in a bit of hype overdrive in touting its local success so far.

Eversave.com, claimed in promotional material sent to the *Townsmen* last week that it had already signed up 20 Andover merchants to use a service that draws online shoppers, and then tells them where to find what they want off-line, in local stores, to make their purchases.

But there were 17, not 20, businesses named in a list provided by GPC/O'Neill & Associates, the public relations firm representing Eversave.com.

And at least some of the merchants on that list were not aware of having signed up for anything with Eversave.

Jack Bigelow, owner of New England Computer Supply, says he thinks he recalls receiving an e-mail asking him if he wanted to try the service, but never answered it.

The same is true of Jim Kapelson of Kaps Menswear. "They may have sent me an e-mail," he says, "but I don't recall it."

Kapelson says he thinks the concept of bringing customers from the Web into local stores, is a good one. "But right now, I'm not a customer of theirs," he says of Eversave.

Also, several of the businesses listed are anything but brick-and-mortar stores. Most prominent was CMGI Inc., the super-hot Internet investment company based in Brickstone Square. Two other local Web compa-

nies partly owned by CMGI, Planet Direct and NaviSite, were also listed.

Eversave founder Jeremiah Doyle, of Belmont, agrees that the Web companies should not have been listed. And Tristan Jordan of GPC/O'Neill said he had inadvertently sent out an incorrect list of merchants who had signed on.

A second list furnished Tuesday included Athlete's Corner, where an employee who declined to be identified said the company had indeed signed up with Eversave, but hadn't launched any promotions yet.

"They've been very helpful," he said of Eversave, "but we've sort of been dragging our feet getting it off the ground, so we don't have any results yet."

Doyle adds that the reason some merchants say they have not "signed up" with Eversave is because they have been placed on "another whole system" that is free, called "E-mail Express," where they are allowed to respond to a customer seeking a product they may have.

Merchants who do formally sign up pay from \$9.99 to \$99.99 for space on the Web site. But even that is somewhat negotiable, Doyle says.

"We tell people that if they help us by marketing the site, we'll waive part or all of the fee," he says. "It includes things like posting a sign in the store, or doing promotions. So it's win-win, where we trade, and get the word out. It's normally very expensive to get people to come to a Web site."

Doyle, who says he has been an entrepreneur all his life, says he built a company in Europe and then sold it a year ago to come back to the Boston area. "The Internet Age is exploding," he says, "and I was interested in

doing something like that."

He says while some have predicted that "physical" shopping will eventually disappear, he disagrees. "My research showed that only 1 percent of buying is done online," he says, "and I don't think it's going to get to be much more than 10 percent."

Doyle says he also talked with a number of retailers, and found that few of them had an Internet strategy. "Some of them have Web sites," he says, "but they were all having trouble finding a way of driving customers into their stores."

That, he says, is what gave him the idea for Eversave, which promotes itself as a way for customers to find what they want in their local area. Customers, who can remain anonymous, enter a zip code and can also say how far they are willing to drive, and then search for merchants who carry what they want in their local area. They can also post an e-mail saying what they are looking for, and merchants can respond, but only once.

"That way, it keeps it anonymous, and a person doesn't have to worry about (e-mail) spam if they are contacted by a merchant," Doyle says.

He says he includes companies that have Web sites, but they all have to be "bricks-and-mortar" stores, and he says he is trying to emphasize the "mom-and-pop" operations, whose owners may be fearful of losing customers to e-commerce.

According to Doyle, a month after the formal start, he has around 11,000 customers visiting the site, and 600 merchants who regularly post promotions.

"It's growing fast," he says.

— Taylor Armerding

Sale of PC Week won't move Lundquist

For observers of the computer trade magazine industry, the news on Tuesday was not a huge surprise, but still very big indeed. The giant of the field, Ziff-Davis, announced it was selling off its publishing unit to Willis Stein & Partners for \$780 million in cash.

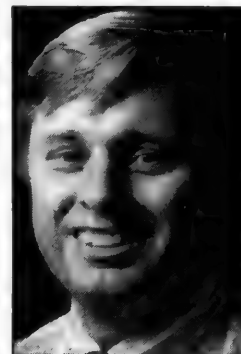
But for Andover's Eric Lundquist, editor-in-chief of *PC Week*, one of the major publications in that unit, life is not expected to change all that much. It may even get better, he says.

Lundquist, in Seattle earlier this week to make a speech before the Washington Software Alliance, said he was "pretty confident" about the future.

"I still have a job," he deadpanned, "and I think it will be a pretty good thing for us. We'll end up as a bigger

part of a smaller company. This (Willis Stein) is an investment company that is looking to invest more in the product. And what's a publication but the people involved in it?"

According to reports, Ziff-Davis sold the publishing unit to boost its stock price. Ziff-Davis chairman and CEO Eric Hippeau was quoted calling it a step toward "unlocking value for our shareholders."



Lundquist — staying put.

The market was apparently not immediately impressed. On the day of the announcement, Ziff-Davis shares fell 1 1/2 to 17 1/2.

But Lundquist says he believes the market has never given a full evaluation of the company's Web effort.

"I believe we're the 14th largest site in the world," he said, adding that if Ziff-Davis can "break out the Web site and give it the prominence it needs," that could turn things around."

But he agrees with the move, saying "the whole idea of building the big empire was very hard to work."

Meanwhile, Lundquist says he's not planning to make any moves. "I'll still have a big say in how the Web site works," he says.

— Taylor Armerding

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BUSINESS

(Continued from page 36)

to capture additional market share with our gallium arsenide ICs in the dynamic wireless voice and data markets. I appreciate the support of Tom and the entire board, and I am eager to work with everyone at

Alpha to make it an even better company."

Prior to joining Alpha, Aldrich held management positions with Adams Russell and M/A-Com, the last as head of M/A-Com's Integrated Circuits Active Products business. He received a bachelor of science degree in marketing from Providence College in 1978 and a MBA from University of Rhode

Island in 1981.

He lives with his wife and three children.

Alpha is headquartered in Woburn, where it manufactures RF, GaAs ICs discrete semiconductor devices and passive components.

Blain & Associates moves to Andover

Richard R. Blain & Associates (RRBA), consultants in philanthropy, has relocated its offices from North Andover to One Elm Square in Andover.

RRBA provides fund-raising and public relations counsel to not-for-profit institutions and organizations throughout the Northeast. The firm has directed successful capital campaigns for St. Michael Parish in North Andover, Austin Prep in Reading and Pilgrim Church in Merrimack. The firm has also served Lazarus House Ministries, Merrimack College, The Trauma Intervention Program, Saints Memorial Medical Center, The Joseph Hermann Youth Center and other area charitable organizations.



Feeling smarter — Exactly one year and a day after Merrimack College President Richard J. Santagati announced that Arthur Andersen had pledged \$110,000 to create the Arthur Andersen Technology Center, the facility, which will provide state-of-the-art instructional technology to the students and faculty of Merrimack College's business programs, opened last month. The pledge to create the "smart classroom" was the result of many individual gifts from Merrimack alumni employed at Arthur Andersen's Boston office and was matched by the company's corporate matching gift program. The center will connect each student to his/her peers and to the instructor, and will provide for distance learning via satellite and distance communications via the Internet and Intranet-like communications systems. From left are Andover residents Joseph X. Bruno '80, a partner at Arthur Andersen, Santagati and Dr. Thomas Dukes, dean of business administration at Merrimack.

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Andover Commons wins landscape competition

The Institute of Real Estate Management has given Andover Commons on Railroad Street one of its top annual landscape competition awards.

Andover Commons has been selected by the Boston Metropolitan Chapter of IREM as winner in the urban category for excellence in landscaping and grounds.

Once the site of Tyre Rubber Co. operations dating to 1876, the buildings were recycled in 1981 into 167 modern apartments of senior citizens' housing by Braintree developer John M. Corcoran & Co., who also owns and manages the 220-unit Riverview Commons Apartments, bordering the Merrimack River in Andover.

"Eye-appealing landscaping has historically been a hallmark of Corcoran apartment communities and remains a high priority with us," said Carol Davidson, Corcoran Management Co. property manager.

"The enthusiasm we get from our residents encourages us to keep a year-round focus on what sometimes would appear to be only a seasonal function."

Andover Bank announces new appointments

Andover Bank announces the addition of Michael K. Sullivan as assistant vice president/assistant controller and Brenda Tecce as retail banking sales administrator and the promotion of Anthony Popielarz to marketing information officer.

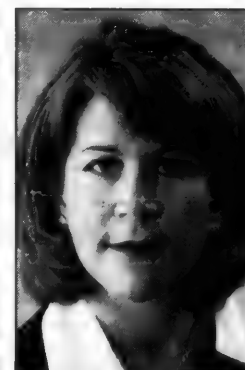
Sullivan has worked in the banking industry for more than eight years, most recently as assistant comptroller at Brookline Savings Bank. The Lowell resident received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Merrimack College.

Tecce, of Salem, N.H., was a sales manager at Filene's. She received a business school certificate from Burdett.

Popielarz oversees all research activities and is involved with coordination of direct market-

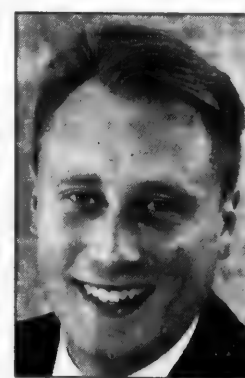


Michael Sullivan



Brenda Tecce

ing efforts, as well as product/promotions analysis and development. The Manchester, N.H., resident previously was market research/business development manager at Granite State Credit Union in Manchester. He received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of New Hampshire and is pursuing a master's degree in business administration from New Hampshire College.



Anthony Popielarz

Sports

First jump ball of 1999-00 basketball season is Saturday

By Rick Harrison

Over the next few weeks, the *Townsmen* will preview 1999-2000 Andover High varsity winter sports teams. We begin today with boys basketball, girls basketball and ice hockey.

BOYS BASKETBALL

The Andover High boys varsity basketball team will get its season off to an earlier-than-usual start this Saturday night, when the Golden Warriors battle Lowell High as part of the inaugural 'Holiday Hoop Jam' at the 6,500-seat Tsongas Arena in Lowell.

The 7 p.m. opener is the last of four scheduled basketball games, including the Andover/Lowell girls (1 p.m.) and UMass Lowell men's (3 p.m.) and women's (5 p.m.) teams, which highlight the day-long festival.

"It's a few days sooner than most years," said AHS head coach Dave Fazio about the lidlifter. "But the decision to accept the invitation was a no-brainer. How often do the kids get a chance to play in a facility like the Tsongas?"

Andover returns three full-time starters and three spot starters from last year's 15-8 team, which defeated Boston Latin (81-61) and Cambridge Rindge & Latin (60-55) in the Division 1 North Tournament before being ousted by Haverhill (71-61) in the semifinal round.

Six seniors graduated including last year's third high scorer, Brian Anderson, along with Mark Rocca, Chris Demko, Matt Brooks,

Dana Karahalios and Rob Bolway. ***

This time around the program attracted 86 candidates including 22 juniors and seniors, 26 sophomores and 38 freshmen.

Fazio begins his 11th season with an outstanding 154-69 overall record (.691 winning percentage). His teams have qualified for the tournament 10 straight years and won three Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1 titles.

Returning starters are junior All-Scholastic sniper Tom McLaughlin, a 6'5" swingman who has already established himself as one of the top players in the state, senior point-guard and Capt. Paul Bellacqua and senior center Paul Wysocki (6'7").

Sharpshooter McLaughlin poured in a school single-season record 515 points last winter — and in two varsity seasons he already has 914 points (399 as freshman).

McLaughlin, who had 38 points in the tourney victory over Boston Latin and 39 versus Cambridge R&L, also has 85 career three-pointers including 64 last season.

"Tom is a proven big-game player who delivers in the clutch," said Fazio. "He's going to be dynamite again this season."

Bellacqua is fresh off a superb All-Scholastic varsity soccer season, in which he scored a school single-season record 28 goals and was named MVP of the Merrimack Valley Conference. Wysocki had 134 points as a sophomore and 367 last year (501 career).

The problem with Wysocki: he is currently sidelined indefinitely with a knee injury. He could be

ready for Lowell on Saturday but it's unlikely.

Other players who saw some varsity time last year are senior wing and Capt. Brad Stubenhaus (6'1"), senior forward and Capt. Pat Murnane (6'1") and senior guard Dave Cordima (6'1").

Stubenhaus netted 104 points last winter, Cordima 75 and Murnane (also a football captain) 57.

"We have six kids returning who have been in the trenches against teams like Cambridge, Central and Haverhill," said Fazio, a former Central Catholic and Salem State College standout. "That kind of experience is invaluable."

"It's also nice to have a returning point-guard (Bellacqua) who has been with us three years and knows our system well."

"We have the tremendous scoring potential with McLaughlin, but a lot will still depend on what happens with Wysocki. We need that big, physical presence in the middle and without him we're at a disadvantage," said Fazio.

"Stubenhaus and Cordima give us more outstanding senior leadership, and there are some pretty good players up from the junior varsity team."

Juniors elevated from assistant coach Bob Hatem's JV squad are left-shooting guard Kevin Shepard (6'0"), point-guard Geordie Miliotis (5'8"), forward Chris Caverly (6'1") and forward Mike Byrne (6'2").

Junior left-shooting guard Dan Hughes (5'11") returns after sitting out all last season with a leg injury, and senior forward Adam Silevitch (6'2") is back after

a one-year absence (he was with the program as a freshman and sophomore).

Completing the 13-player varsity roster is junior forward Andrew Carter (6'2"), who will be on the shelf a couple more weeks with a knee injury.

"All-in-all the potential is here for a strong team — but we need to get everyone back healthy," said Fazio. "It will be a smaller, scrappy group this time around."

"One thing we'll definitely miss from the six graduated seniors is the team chemistry they provided. Each one put the team ahead of his own personal goals — and we need that same unselfish attitude again this year."

"We need the same kind of heart and character last year's seniors contributed. We need players to fill roles like those guys did," explained Fazio.

Fazio believes Andover is among the league favorites, along with defending state Division 1 champ Central Catholic, Lowell and Methuen.

"For the past 10 years it's consistently been Andover and Central battling (for the league title)," said Fazio. "Every season a different team will jump up and challenge — but no other schools have stayed near the top for a long period of time."

Andover scrimmaged Charlestown and Westford Academy last weekend to help prepare for Saturday's opener (tickets are on sale at the AHS canteen and athletic department).

The Golden Warriors are again

in two tournaments, the Greater Lawrence Christmas Festival Dec. 22-30 at Merrimack College and the MediaOne Tournament Jan. 15-16 at Tufts University in Medford.

First-round Christmas Festival pairings were drawn last night — after *Townsmen* presstime.

In the MediaOne tourney, Andover faces Boston Latin in the semifinal round Jan. 15 at 6 p.m. at Tufts. South Boston and Haverhill square off in the other semifinal.

The winners play for the title and the losers for third place the following night.

Other non-league opponents are Jeremiah Burke (home, Jan. 25), Brockton (home, Feb. 8) and Amherst/Pelham Regional (home, Feb. 19).

The home opener at the Dunn Gym is next Tuesday night against Dracut (7:30).

GIRLS BASKETBALL

With four of five starters returning from a 15-7 team, and the addition of a freshman prospect with a familiar last name, the Andover High girls basketball team appears ready to challenge for another Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1 title.

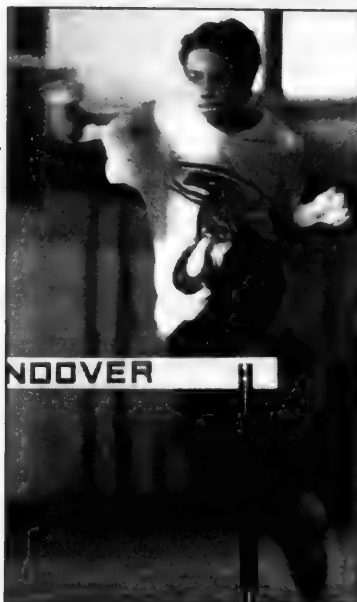
The Lady Warriors open the season this Saturday afternoon (1 p.m.) against Lowell. The game is a part of the inaugural 'Holiday Hoop Jam' sponsored by UMass Lowell at the 6,500-seat Tsongas Arena.

"Our kids are excited about the first game," said fifth-year AHS

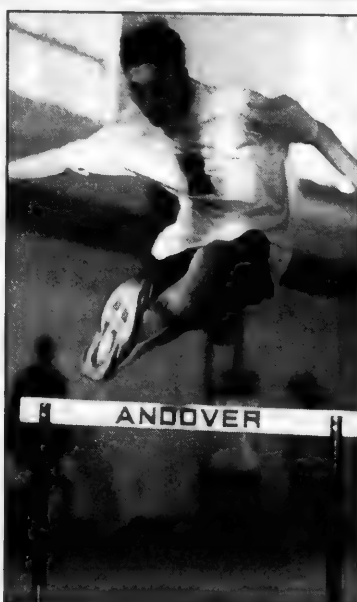
(Continued on page 41)

Tracking the boys track & field team

Photos by Lisa Adelsberger



Joe Robichard



Jin Choi



Greg Stamm



Brian DeAngelo



Alex Champion

1999-00 AHS WINTER VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS BASKETBALL

(Home Games at Dunn Gym)

December

- 11 — at Lowell, 7 p.m. (Tsongas Arena)
- 14 — Dracut, 7:30 p.m.
- 17 — Chelmsford, 7:30 p.m.
- 20 — at Tewksbury, 7:30 p.m.
- 22-30 — Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament (pairings TBA)

January

- 4 — at Lawrence, 7:30 p.m.
- 7 — at Haverhill, 7:30 p.m.
- 11 — Billerica, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 — MediaOne Tournament semifinal/vs. Boston Latin, 6 p.m., at Tufts University (Medford)
- 16 — MediaOne Tournament/vs. either South Boston or Haverhill, time TBA, at Tufts University
- 21 — Central Catholic, 7:30 p.m.
- 25 — Jeremiah Burke, 7:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 28 — at Methuen, 7:30 p.m.

February

- 1 — Lowell, 7:30 p.m.
- 8 — Brockton, 7 p.m. (non-league)
- 11 — Haverhill, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 — Methuen, 7:30 p.m.
- 19 — Amherst Regional, 7 p.m. (non-league)
- 23 — at Central Catholic, 7:30 p.m.
- Record Last Year: 15-8 (Division 1 North Tournament semifinalist).
- Head Coach: Dave Fazio (11th year, record 154-69).
- Assistant Coach: Bob Hatem.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

(Home Games at Dunn Gym)

December

- 11 — at Lowell, 1 p.m. (Tsongas Arena)
- 14 — at Dracut, 7:30 p.m.
- 17 — at Chelmsford, 7:30 p.m.
- 21 — Tewksbury, 7:30 p.m.
- 27 — Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament semifinal/vs. Salem, N.H. 6 p.m., at North Andover Field House
- 29 — Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament/vs. either Methuen or North Andover, time TBA, at North Andover Field House

January

- 4 — Lawrence, 7:30 p.m.
- 7 — Haverhill, 7:30 p.m.
- 11 — at Billerica, 7:30 p.m.
- 13 — Lowell, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 — MediaOne Tournament semifinal/vs. Somerville, 4 p.m. at Tufts University (Medford)
- 16 — MediaOne Tournament/vs. either Jeremiah Burke or Braintree, time TBA, at Tufts University (Medford)
- 18 — Notre Dame Academy-Tyngsboro, 7:30 p.m.
- 21 — at Central Catholic, 7:30 p.m.
- 25 — at Jeremiah Burke, 5:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 28 — Methuen, 7:30 p.m.

February

- 4 — Chelmsford, 7:30 p.m.
- 9 — Central Catholic, 7:30 p.m.
- 11 — at Haverhill, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 — at Methuen, 7:30 p.m.
- Record Last Year: 15-7 (Division 1 North Tournament quarterfinalist).
- Head Coach: Jim Tildsley (5th year, record 78-14).

BOYS & GIRLS INDOOR TRACK

(Home meets at AHS Field House)

December

- 15 — Billerica, 3:30 p.m.
- 20 — at Methuen, 3:30 p.m. (Methuen High)
- 28 — Freshman/Sophomore Meet, time TBA (at Reggie Lewis Track Center, Roxbury)
- 29 — Dracut, 3:30 p.m.

January

- 5 — Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 6 — at Freshman/Sophomore Meet, 4 p.m. (Lowell High)
- 8 — State Coaches Relays, 9:30 a.m. (at Reggie Lewis Track)
- 12 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 19 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 22 — State Pentathlon, time TBA (at Reggie Lewis Track)
- 26 — Lowell, 3:30 p.m.
- 29-30 — State Track Coaches Invitational, 9:30 a.m. (at Reggie Lewis Track)

February

- 2 — at Phillips Academy, 3:30 p.m.
- 12 — State Class Meet, 9:30 a.m. (at Reggie Lewis Track)
- 19 — All-State Meet, 9:30 a.m. (at Reggie Lewis Track)
- 26 — New England Championship Meet, 9:30 a.m. (Reggie Lewis Track)
- Boys Record Last Year: 2-5.
- Girls Record Last Year: 6-2.
- Head Coach: Art Iworsley (21st year with girls, 10th with boys).

ANDOVER TOWNSMAN

ICE HOCKEY

(Home Games at Merrimack Valley Forum)

December

- 15 — Tewksbury, 6 p.m.
- 18 — Lincoln-Sudbury, 1 p.m.
- 22 — at Boston Latin, 4 p.m. (Matthews Arena)
- 28 — at Lowell Christmas Festival/vs. Nashua, N.H., 4:45 p.m., at Tsongas Arena
- 29 — at Lowell Christmas Festival/vs. Beverly, 12:45 p.m., at Tsongas Arena

January

- 5 — at Haverhill, 7 p.m. (Haverhill High)
- 8 — Westford Academy, 1 p.m.
- 12 — at Chelmsford, 7:30 p.m. (Chelmsford Forum)
- 15 — at Methuen, 6:50 p.m. (Methuen High)
- 19 — at Central Catholic, 5:30 p.m. (Merrimack College)
- 22 — at Lincoln-Sudbury, 8 p.m. (Assabet Valley Arena)
- 26 — Billerica, 6 p.m.
- 29 — Boston Latin, 1 p.m.

February

- 2 — Haverhill, 6 p.m.
- 5 — at Westford, 10 a.m. (New England Sports Arena)
- 12 — Lowell, 1 p.m.
- 16 — at Dracut, 8 p.m. (Janas Rink)
- 19 — Methuen, 1 p.m.
- 21 — vs. North Reading at Newburyport Bank Classic, time TBA (Graf Rink)
- 23 — Newburyport Bank Classic championship & consolation games, time TBA (Graf Rink)
- Record Last Year: 4-12-4.
- Head Coach: Bill Cullen (9th year, record 77-64-22).
- Assistant Coaches: Ralph Quaglietta, Bill Blackwell.

BOYS SWIM & DIVE

(Home Meets at Greater Lawrence Tech)

December

- 14 — Nashua, N.H., 3:30 p.m.
- 17 — at Lowell, 3:30 p.m. (Lowell High)

January

- 4 — Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 7 — at Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m. (Greater Lowell YMCA)
- 15 — Nashua, 1 p.m.
- 22 — Lowell, 1 p.m.
- 25 — at Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 28 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.

February

- 11 — MVC Championship Meet, 3 p.m. (at Haverhill High)
- 18 — North Sectional Championships, time & site TBA
- 25 — All-State Meet, time & site TBA
- Record Last Year: 4-4.
- Head Coach: Mark Taffe (3rd year, record 8-8).

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

(Home Meets at Dunn Gym)

January

- 4 — at Billerica, 7 p.m.
- 6 — at Wilmington, 7 p.m.
- 10 — Chelmsford, 7 p.m.
- 12 — Lowell & Dracut, 7 p.m.
- 17 — at Masconomet Regional, 5 p.m.
- 19 — Tewksbury, 7 p.m.
- 26 — at North Andover, 7 p.m.
- 31 — Methuen, 7 p.m.

February

- 5 — MVC Championship Meet, 4 p.m. (at Andover High)
- Record Last Year: 7-2 (3rd in North Sectionals, 6th at All-State Meet).
- Head Coach: Julie Chapman (10th year, record 83-13).
- Assistant Coach: Mia Kearins.

BOYS GYMNASTICS

(Home Meets at Dunn Gym)

January

- 4 — at Salem, N.H., 4 p.m.
- 11 — at Attleboro, 6 p.m.
- 18 — at Newton North, 5 p.m.
- 20 — Newton South, 7 p.m.
- 22 — at Salem, N.H. Invitational, 10 a.m.
- 28 — at Burlington, 7 p.m.

February

- 3 — Revere, 4 p.m.
- 10 — Braintree, 7 p.m.
- 14 — at State Coaches Meet, time & site TBA
- 17 — at All-State Meet, 7 p.m. (Braintree High)

Record Last Year: 1-6.

Head Coaches: Steve Sirois & Jack Gleason.

BOYS SKI

(All Meets at Bradford Hill)

January

- 10 — Haverhill & Bishop Fenwick, 3:15 p.m.
- 12 — Masconomet Regional & St. John's Prep, 3:15
- 13 — Methuen & Austin Prep, 3:15 p.m.
- 24 — North Andover, 3:15 p.m.
- 25 — Haverhill & Bishop Fenwick, 3:15 p.m.
- 27 — Masconomet Regional & St. John's Prep, 3:15 p.m.
- 31 — Methuen & Austin Prep, 3:15 p.m.

February

- 2 — North Andover, 3:15 p.m.
- 8 — Interscholastic Race, 3:15 p.m.

March

- 1 — All-State Team & Individual Championships, 10 a.m. (at Berkshire East, Charlmont)
- Record Last Year: 9-5 (4th in North Shore League).
- Head Coach: Tom Busta (2nd year).
- Assistant Coach: Karl Lippmann.

GIRLS SKI

(All Meets at Bradford Hill)

January

- 7 — Methuen & North Andover, 3:15 p.m.
- 11 — Haverhill & Bishop Fenwick, 3:15 p.m.
- 14 — Masconomet Regional, 3:15 p.m.
- 21 — Methuen & North Andover, 3:15 p.m.
- 26 — Haverhill & Bishop Fenwick, 3:15 p.m.

February

- 1 — Masconomet Regional, 3:15 p.m.
- 8 — Interscholastic Race, 3:15 p.m.

March

- 1 — All-State Team & Individual Championships, 10 a.m. (at Berkshire East, Charlmont)
- Record Last Year: 11-1 (North Shore League co-champs, All-State qualifier).
- Head Coach: Tom Busta (2nd year).
- Assistant Coach: Karl Lippmann.

GIRLS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

(Home Games at West Middle School)

December

- 14 — at Dracut, 3:30 p.m.
- 17 — at Chelmsford, 4 p.m.
- 21 — Tewksbury, 3:30 p.m.

January

- 4 — Lawrence, 3:30 p.m.
- 7 — Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 11 — at Billerica, 3:30 p.m.
- 13 — at Lowell, 4:45 p.m.
- 21 — at Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 26 — at Phillips Academy, 3:30 p.m.
- 28 — Methuen, 3:30 p.m.

February

- 1 — at Lowell, 3:30 p.m.
- 4 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 8 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 11 — at Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 15 — at Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- Coach: Stephanie Ragucci.

BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

(Home Games at West Middle School)

December

- 14 — at Dracut, 4:45 p.m.
- 17 — at Chelmsford, 4 p.m.
- 21 — Tewksbury, 4:45 p.m.

January

- 4 — Lawrence, 4:45 p.m.
- 7 — Haverhill, 4:45 p.m.
- 11 — at Billerica, 4:45 p.m.
- 12 — Phillips Academy, 3:30 p.m.
- 14 — at Lowell, 4:45 p.m.
- 21 — at Central Catholic, 4:45 p.m.
- 26 — at Phillips Academy, 3:30 p.m.
- 28 — Methuen, 4:45 p.m.

February

- 1 — at Lowell, 4:45 p.m.
- 4 — Chelmsford, 4:45 p.m.
- 8 — Central Catholic, 4:45 p.m.
- 9 — Phillips Academy, 3:30 p.m.
- 11 — at Haverhill, 4:45 p.m.
- 15 — at Methuen, 4:45 p.m.
- Coach: Chris Downer.

ALL SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

AHS PREVIEWS

(Continued from page 39)

coach Jim Tildsley, who brings a flashy 78-14 won-lost record (.848 percentage) into the campaign. "It should be a great experience. Sure it's an early start — but we feel we're ready."

The only seniors on last year's team were Janice Coppolino and Kaitlin Dargan.

Coppolino was a varsity mainstay for three years. She led the balanced scoring last winter with 225 points, and was a key contributor two years ago when the locals went 23-2 and reached the state Division 1 final before bowing to Central/Western Mass. champ Minnechaug Regional (55-40).

As a sophomore, Coppolino was a pivotal part of Andover's 24-1 team that won the Division 1 North title before bowing to Braintree (55-38) in the state semifinals.

Returning starters are senior center and Capt. Michelle Danis (5'11"), senior guard/forward and Capt. Lindsey Pearson (5'9"), junior guard Lisa Tisbert (5'8") and sophomore forward Shannon Sweeney (5'11").

Three-year player Pearson, who appears to have conquered recurring back problems, had 196 points last year and has 422 career points.

Tisbert netted 191 points, Sweeney 138 and Danis 127 last year, while Tisbert also had 63 points and Danis 25 for the state finalists two seasons back.

Danis, Pearson and Sweeney are coming off strong varsity vol-

leyball campaigns, while Tisbert is doing the same from girls soccer. Both those AHS teams won conference titles and lost only once all fall.

Other veteran sophomores, all letterwinners last winter, are center Megan Pinksten (6'0"), guard Katie Kramer (5'3") and forward Kristen Swoboda (5'10").

Pinksten notched 109 points, Swoboda 94 and top soccer sniper Kramer had 43 points last winter.

New to the varsity are junior forward Karen Whelan (5'11"), junior center Shawna Foley (5'11"), junior guard Stephanie Fish (5'7"), senior forward Allison James (5'7") and freshman guard-with-the-familiar-name Jenny Muller (5'8").

Foley's older sister Kristen was a senior center on the state finalist in 1997-'98, and now plays at Assumption College, while Muller's twin sisters Charlotte and Sarah are among the best ever to play the game at AHS (Charlotte holds all school single-season and career scoring records).

Two players expected to split time between the varsity and JV teams are sophomore guard Kelly McLaughlin (5'7"), Tom's younger sister, and freshman forward Samantha Hughes (5'8").

Senior student manager Jackie Morando is also a key team component.

"We expect to do well," said Tildsley, whose teams have qualified for four straight Division 1 North Tournaments and won two

conference titles in the state's toughest league. "We have a lot of experience — we just have to work on putting the whole package together."

"Offensively we've moved the ball well in pre-season. The defense needs work and we're hoping to get the same type of team play we had last year."

"There were no superstars last season. Every kid, from No. 1 to No. 12 on the roster, knew her role. That was a good feeling and we hope it continues," said Tildsley, who had 36 candidates this season.

"We're still very young, with only three seniors, and the captains (Danis, Pearson) will provide excellent leadership."

"We like what's happening at the lower levels, too. The in-town programs are flourishing and that speaks well for the future."

Tildsley believes Central Catholic, defending Division 1 North champ Methuen, Haverhill and Lowell will be especially strong this winter.

Scrimmage games were played against Lexington, New Hampshire schools Pinkerton Academy of Derry and Manchester Central, and a private school team from Connecticut, which visited the area recently.

Andover will again play in the four-team Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament to be held Dec. 27 and 29 at the North Andover Field House.

The Lady Warriors face Salem, N.H. in the semifinal round on Dec. 27 at 6 p.m. Methuen and host North Andover meet in the other semifinal.

AHS will also compete, along with the AHS boys, in the Media One Tournament Jan. 15-16 at Tufts University.

Andover duels Somerville in the semifinals on Jan. 15 at 4 p.m. Jeremiah Burke of Boston and Braintree battle in the other semifinal.

The only other non-league game is Jan. 25 at Jeremiah Burke (5:30 p.m.).

Following three straight road games, the home opener at the Dunn Gym is Tuesday night, Dec. 21, against Tewksbury (7:30).

Assistant coaches are Sue Rogers (JV, fifth year), Stephanie Ragucci (freshmen, third year) and volunteer Dick Muller.

ICE HOCKEY

The Andover High hockey team, coming off a rare down year, returns 15 lettermen who have been through the tough times and now hope to turn things around this winter.

The Golden Warriors took their lumps last season, finishing 4-12-2 overall, but still came within a whisker of qualifying for the Division 2 North Tournament with a 3-4-1 mark in Division 2 of the Merrimack Valley/Dual County League.

It was the first time 10th-year head coach Bill Cullen had not guided AHS to a tourney berth.

The locals did produce some of



Photo by Lisa Adelsberger

On track — The AHS boys track & field team is hard at work, practicing in the field house.

their best hockey at the end of the season, going 2-2-2 in their final six games and playing tournament qualifiers Dracut (1-0 loss) and Tewksbury (4-2 loss) tough. There were four costly one-goal setbacks along the way.

Cullen, who also spent 16 seasons at Wilmington High where he won several league titles and consistently qualified for the tournament, has directed AHS to one league Division 2 co-championship (with Tewksbury).

His overall record at Andover is 77-64-22.

The 1999-2000 season opens with a pair of home games next week at the Valley Forum, Wednesday night against Division 1 Tewksbury (6 p.m.) and Saturday afternoon versus MV/DCL Division 2 foe Lincoln-Sudbury (1 p.m.).

This is Andover's second season at the Forum, located off Union Street on the Andover/Lawrence line near the junctions of Rtes. 28 and 495.

"We have an excellent skating team this year," said Cullen. "We can throw four or five competitive lines on the ice."

"The defense is solid. Most of them are back with a year's experience under their belt."

"We graduated our No. 1 goaltender (Mike Johnson), but Chris Salini has played off-and-on since he was a freshman and he's looked sharp in the pre-season."

"We do have one major problem," added Cullen. "It will be tough to replace our injured captain, Jason Swift, who is probably out for the season." (See sidebar story, at left.)

In addition to goaltender Johnson (two shutouts), other top graduates were defenseman Mike Mallon and forwards Tim Sheehy, Mike Sheehy and Dave Morin.

Tim Sheehy was the top sniper for light-scoring Andover with eight goals and six assists last winter.

Returning forwards who lettered in 1998-'99 are senior right wing and Capt. Brad Dunn (seven goals, three assists last year), junior left wing Dennis Moran, junior right wing Dustin Shea, junior center Jon Ofria (three goals, five assists), senior right wing Matt Busby, junior center Chris Cataldo, junior center John

Stearns and senior right wing Jeff Stearns.

Veteran defensemen are junior Brendan Gleason, junior Mike Anderson, sophomore Tim LeGrow, senior Lars Keil and junior John Ronan.

Goaltenders who saw varsity time as backups to Johnson are Salini, a senior, and junior Nate Stoetzel.

Newcomers up front are freshman right wing Mike Corey, sophomore left wing Peter Burbank, senior left wing Andy Ryan, freshman left wing Steve Johnson, senior right wing Jack Wittbold and junior center Jeff Vallera.

First-year defensemen are freshman Steve Seero, junior Jeff Ahern and junior Anthony Costello.

Junior Brendan Gatlin is the third goaltender.

Cullen believes that Methuen, perennial MV/DCL Division 2 titlist Boston Latin, and new addition Westford Academy (up from Division 3) will be strong contenders this winter.

Pre-season scrimmages have been held against Bishop Guertin of Nashua, N.H., Wilmington and Canton. Saturday AHS faces Newburyport in the Methuen High Jamboree.

Back as assistant coaches are Bill Blackwell and Ralph Quaglietta. Injured Jason Swift will also help out behind the bench.

Andover will play two games in the inaugural Lowell Holiday Hockey Festival Dec. 28 and 29 at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell, home of the American Hockey League Lowell Lock Monsters (affiliated with NHL teams New York Islanders and Los Angeles Kings).

The Golden Warriors face Nashua, N.H. on Dec. 28 at 4:45 p.m., and duel Beverly on Dec. 29 in the day's first game at 12:45 p.m.

The Festival has 12 teams playing 10 games over the two days.

Andover will also compete in the annual Newburyport Bank Classic Feb. 20 and 23 at the Graf Rink in Newburyport. The locals battle North Reading in the semifinal round on Feb. 23, and face either Tewksbury or Triton Regional of Byfield on Feb. 23.

Last winter AHS edged North Reading, 1-0, in the semis and dropped a 4-2 decision to Tewksbury in the title game.

Hockey captain Swift expects 100 percent recovery, but may be out for the season

By Rick Harrison

The good news — and the only news that matters — is Andover High senior hockey captain Jason Swift is going to be all right.

But it was a very scary weekend for Jason and his parents, coaches and friends.

Swift, one of the top scorers for Andover last season, was participating in the team's first pre-season scrimmage last Saturday afternoon against Bishop Guertin High of Nashua, a traditional New Hampshire state Division 1 power.

At some point in the two-hour practice game Swift took a seemingly-innocent hit and no one thought twice about it for the rest of the afternoon.

"When he was driving home Jason experienced some pain, and about an hour after he got home he passed out," said AHS head coach Bill Cullen.

Swift was rushed to Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston where the injury was diagnosed as a ruptured spleen.

"He had a torn artery that started leaking blood into parts of the body where it shouldn't be," said Cullen. "Doctors estimated he lost about half his blood supply."

Jason underwent successful surgery that night and was kept, for precautionary reasons, in the intensive care unit of the hospital until late Monday.

He is currently recuperating and is expected to make a 100 percent recovery with no lasting after-effects.

Needless to say it is likely Jason will be lost to the Golden Warriors for the season.

Whether he ever plays hockey again is a decision to be made down the line by his doctors, parents and Jason.

"It definitely started the season on a down note," said Cullen after returning from a Monday night visit at Mass. General. "He was going to be one of our top players and leaders this year."

Although he won't be able to play, in due time Cullen hopes to have Jason behind the bench as a volunteer assistant coach.

And maybe the holidays will have a little extra meaning this year.

Silence ...

(Continued from page 8)

No, instead just imagine, for a moment, that this ad had been placed by a gay/lesbian group, offering a club or a place for adolescents who might be confused about their sexuality or interested in exploring it. Or perhaps a group of minority students, advertising to get other students to come and learn about their traditions and cultures.

Now imagine that Charles Wettergreen, teacher and union member, wrote a public letter suggesting that such clubs were trying to "abduct" the children of Andover, along with various other insults.

Oh, my. There would be marches and demonstrations at the school. Classes would be canceled so there could be at least a full day of sensitivity and diversity training. The School Committee, the superintendent and the union would be falling all over one another trying to distance themselves from such hateful bigotry. Heck, the Boston TV cameras would probably be out here, and I'd probably have some hard-hitting reporter in

my face, asking me why I had dignified such trash by printing it.

Yes, and along with all that, Charles Wettergreen's job would probably be in serious jeopardy. How, outraged citizens would ask, could the system justify allowing somebody who thinks such things to teach our children?

In other words, free speech has apparently become what equality was in *Animal Farm*. It extends only so far — easily far enough to insult and malign the Catholic Church, but not to those who have become the new sacred populations of the day.

This letter has been in the public domain for a week now. It should have been enough of an embarrassment to the system and to the union for the leaders of those organizations to have immediately disavowed it without any prompting. By their continued silence, they are identified with it.

It's already a bit late, but if they aren't going to bring any shame on Wettergreen, they should at least distance themselves from this. And they should do it publicly.

Talk back to Taylor Armerding at tarmerding@andovertownsmen.com

AHS has 3 football players named Merrimack Valley All-Conference for 1999 season

By Rick Harrison

Mike Giles, Pat Murnane and Charles Murnane have been named first-team Merrimack Valley All-Conference in football for the 1999 season.

Senior running back Giles and senior end Pat Murnane, both repeat All-Conference selections, were tabbed on offense while senior Charles Murnane was chosen as the placekicker.

Giles scored a team-high 84 points and ran for more than 600 yards this season. Pat Murnane caught a team-high six TD passes and

scored 38 points, while Charles Murnane had 55 points including 20 PAT kicks and a field goal.

Quarterback Chris Rogers, who had 13 TD passes and threw for close to 1,400 yards, was a second team pick on offense.

AHS second team defensive honorees are lineman Mike Zizzo and linebacker Luis Santiago.

Golden Warriors earning honorable mention are Sam Dadd, Sean Lawton, Mike Burnett, Jon Maloney and Sean Smith.

The team dinner is scheduled this Sunday.

Registration begins for YMCA Adult Basketball League

Registration is now going on for the YMCA Adult Basketball League for ages 18 and over at Andover/North Andover Branch at 165 Haverhill St. Ten regular sea-

son games are scheduled for Sundays, Feb. 6-May 21, at 6, 7 and 9 p.m. There are eight teams (10 players in each team) in two divisions.

The top two in each divi-

sion advance to divisional championship and winners advance to league championship.

For more information, call Mike Stevens at 685-3541.

SPORTSTALK

By Rick Harrison

This column, compiled from information supplied by the colleges or by friends and relatives of the student-athletes, youth standouts and coaches involved, is published periodically in the *Townsmen*. Information may be mailed to the office at 33 Chestnut St., Andover, 01810; or fax it to 978-470-2819.

Abigail Harris of Andover, former captain of the Phillips Academy girls soccer team, finished her four-year women's varsity soccer career at Union College recently by being named to the Northeast Region All-American second team.

Harris

started and played center-midfield all four years for the Dutchwomen, serving as captain of the 1999 squad which received its first-ever bid to the NCAA Tournament and finished 16-3-1.

Trailing 3-0 at the half in their tourney opener, Union rallied to stun nationally-ranked Ithaca, 4-3, in triple overtime.

Union then lost in the second round to powerhouse William Smith College.

Harris finished her collegiate soccer career as the school's third all-time leading scorer with 24 goals and 27 assists, including six goals and eight assists this fall.

She was named an Upstate Collegiate Athletic Association (UCAA) second-team All-Conference as a freshman, and vaulted to first-team honors each of the last three years. She was also selected first-team All-New York state.

Harris received Union's Coaches Award for soccer which symbolizes the player that displays "outstanding character and leadership on and off the field" and exhibits "great passion and skill for the game."

The team was 49-16-4 overall the past four years.

Harris will also captain the Union women's lacrosse team in the spring.

She will begin her final lacrosse campaign with 98 career goals and 40 assists for 138 points.

Last spring she was UCAA first-team and a second-team All-American choice in lacrosse after scoring a team-high and school single-season record 53 goals and 19 assists.

Jess Redding of Andover earned her second varsity letter as a sophomore starter on the powerhouse Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team this fall.

ECSU opened the 1999 season by winning eight of its first nine matches, and stretching its Little East Conference win streak to 21 with three victories over UMass Dartmouth (3-), UMass Boston (3-2) and Rhode Island College (3-0).

The final mark was 16-19 overall

and 6-1 in conference play.

Redding led the team in assists (807), attacks (2,970), service aces (61) and serve percentage (.957). She also had 65 kills, 259 defensive digs and 37 block assists.

Last year as a freshman the 5'10" setter/outside hitter played in nearly half the four-time reigning Little East Conference championships' 145 games, picking up 217 assists.

"Jess did extremely well connecting with our hitters," said ECSU head coach Tom York. "She worked hard over the summer, came back in tremendous shape, and I had complete confidence in her at the setter position."

Redding also had 52 kills and 96 defensive digs for NCAA Tournament qualifier ECSU last fall.

She played well in the Tufts University Invitational, averaging 6.14 assists per game with a .949 serving percentage (37-for-39). She also handled nine passes without an error.

Redding had a season-high 39 assists in four games as ECSU defeated Plymouth State in the conference title-clinching 3-1 win.

Psychology major Redding was All-Conference in volleyball at Andover High, earning team MVP honors as a senior.

Jen Prudden of Andover, senior captain and No. 1 goalkeeper on the Colby-Sawyer College women's soccer team, recently completed an outstanding career with the Lady Chargers.

Prudden served as CSC keeper for all but 45 minutes this season. She had double-digit saves in 11 of the 17 games for the Lady Chargers (7-10), including a season high of 19 stops which she did twice.

Prudden also recorded her seventh collegiate shutout against Eastern Nazarene, and her 16 wins over two seasons is Colby-Sawyer's second highest career total.

She finished this season with a 3.15 goals against average and 11.29 saves per game average.

In addition to the shutout, Prudden held five other teams to one goal.

In 37 career decisions she was 16-20-1 with 473 saves, a 2.38 goals-against average and .845 save percentage.

Only Lauren Ferullo, at 19-14-1, has more career victories.

Ellen Casper of Andover is a

(Continued on page 48)



Jess Redding



Abigail Harris



Jen Prudden

The holidays are here - do you know where your packages are?

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Synchro team shines at regional meet

NASHUA, N.H. — Members of the Andover-North Andover YMCA Synchers team demonstrated their skills at the New England Synchronized Swimming Associations regional Figures Competition on Sunday, Dec. 5.

Held at the Nashua Boys and Girls Club Pool in New Hampshire, the competition brought swimmers together from teams throughout New England.

"We have many new swimmers this year so this was an important start for them," stated Coach Genia Gillan. "The results

showed how hard they have worked thus far."

Each swimmer performed a set of four mandatory figures, which were scored by a panel of judges. The difficulty and complexity of these figures were based on the swimmer's level of competition. The Synchers were represented in Novice, Intermediate; the 11 and Under, 12-13 and 14-15 Age Groups; and Senior competition levels. Awards were given to the top 8 places in each category and age group.

For the second year in a row, Ellie Browne (Andover) placed

first in the Senior level competition despite having to swim with a recent leg injury.

Other Synchers to earn rewards included:

- 14-15 Age Group — Sarah Hansen (Andover) took 5th place, with Lauren Davey (North Andover) placing 6th.

- 12-13 Age Group — Rita Gillan (Andover) placed 2nd and Chelsea Portney (Andover) took 5th.

- The 11 and Under Age Group had a sweep of Synchers, with Lisa Portney (Andover) taking 1st; Maggie Conlon (Methuen)

2nd; Ashley Cohen (Andover) 3rd, and Faryn Shiro (Andover) 4th. Cohen also took a 1st in the 11 and Under Intermediate level, with Shiro placing 5th.

- Other Intermediate level swimmers who took home ribbons for their age group included Caitlin Hanson (North Reading), who placed 4th in the 14-15 grouping and North Andover residents Stephanie Queizoli and Pattie O'Donnell, who placed 5th and 7th, respectively, in the 12-13 group.

- In the Novice level 10-11 year group, Alexandra Coco (North

Andover) placed 5th in her first competition. As this was the first competition for both O'Donnell and Queizoli, they also competed as novices, placing 1st and 3rd at that level. Teammate Sasha Pelich (North Andover) took the 2nd place spot.

"These results are great for the beginning of the season," said coach Gillan.

The next competition for many of the Synchers will be the Junior/Senior Meet, which they will host Jan. 30 at the Andover-North Andover YMCA pool.

The scores of that meet will be used to qualify the swimmers to Junior and Senior Zones championships, to be held later in the season.

WHAT'S UP

What's up at West Middle School

By Meredith Schmidt and Elana Cogliano
West Middle School

West Middle School is bustling with activities. There are many after-school programs that are being continued from past years, including Kids For Kids and Yearbook on Tuesdays; Student Government and "News and Views" newspaper on Wednesdays; Kids on the Block, Math Club, and Drama Club on Thursdays; and Adventure Club at random dates.

Our new activities are Homework Help and chess in the cafeteria every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; Dance Club, Odyssey of the Mind, and Literary Magazine on Wednesdays; Just Make It and Step Aerobics on Thursdays; and athletic intramurals and special events with the Andover Youth Services on Tuesday (for sixth grade) and Thursday (for seventh- and eighth grades).

The AYS will be running wicked cool activities on these intramural days. Bring your friends and get ready for some basketball, mat ball, volleyball, and a whole bunch more!

Listen for announcements about these upcoming activities.

For the holiday season, adviser classes are buying toys for the less fortunate. Many classes are holding bake sales and fundraisers to earn the money for these toys.

There will be a ski trip for seventh- and eighth-graders this Saturday, Dec. 11. The cost is \$53. The Adventure Club is going on a trip to the Rockingham Mall next Thursday, Dec. 16 to shop for hol-

► **WHAT'S UP**
is sponsored by
Andover Youth Services
and the **Andover Townsman**

iday gifts. The Adventure Club is also sponsoring a laser tag outing.

The cafeteria has just opened for after-school help. Come for homework help, games of chess, and a warmer place to wait for the bus! We are in need of seventh- and eighth-grade mentors to stay after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays to help other students.

Kids for Kids has just finished a very successful Cancer Awareness Week. They successfully raised more than \$1,000 to be donated for cancer research. Students held two bake sales, a sixth-grade dance, and collections in the cafeteria at lunch time.

The Wall of Hope was also created again this year. The Wall of Hope is a memorial to all people affected by cancer.

There were messages written by students about family members, friends, and celebrities with cancer.

Many messages were also written about how terrible and scary cancer really is.

These messages touched many hearts, and you could see the messages were very powerful.

► For more information about **WHAT'S UP**, call Bill Fahey, Andover Youth Services director, at 623-8241; or Jack Grady, Townsman assistant editor, at 475-7000. E-mail submissions to: jgrady@andovertownsman.com



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SOCIAL NOTEBOOK

(Continued from page 32)

Road. For more information, call the church between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 475-3528.

Abbot and Dorothy H. Stevens Foundation boosts AVIS fund drive

A challenge grant of up to \$25,000 has been awarded by the Abbot and Dorothy H. Stevens Foundation to the Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS) to match contributions to its inaugural annual appeal. The foundation is a longtime supporter of AVIS activities to preserve and maintain land in its natural state and to promote enjoyment of its reservations by Andover residents and visitors.

AVIS has established the new fund drive to augment its Land Acquisition Fund. A land opportunities committee has identified parcels of land that would be desirable for land preservation in Andover. "Supply is limited and demand is high," says AVIS President Nat Smith. "We need to muster community-wide support now, while there is still an opportunity to acquire and preserve additional parcels."

Fund drive co-chair Betsey Cullen reports, "We've had a terrific response to this fall's solicitation of our members. Next spring we'll expand our campaign to the whole town."

Founded in 1894, AVIS is one of the oldest conservation organizations in the country. It maintains 30 miles of trails on 21 reservations, totaling more than 1,000 acres in Andover.

For more information about the Land Acquisition Fund or membership, write to: AVIS, P.O. Box 5097, Andover 01810, or visit its website at: www.avisandover.org

Middle Suburban Christian Women's Club plans luncheon

Women of all ages are invited to "Gifts Galore Luncheon," sponsored by Middle Suburban Christian Women's Club at Andover, Tuesday, Dec. 14. The event will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Ramada Rolling Green Inn on Route 133.

Liz Cavallaro from Boston Flower Market and Galleria in North Reading will bring an assortment of items, including a Christmas table arrangement. Marilyn Valentine of Nashua, N.H., will sing and Bruce Pellissier from Brockton will give a talk on "Trials and Triumphs." He grew up abusing drugs and

alcohol, but was positively influenced by his future wife's family.

Complimentary child care at Ramada will be available by reservation.

Call Ruth at 664-3901, or Dolly at (781) 944-2228.

Archaeology meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 14

The Northeast Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeology Society and the Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology at Phillips Academy will co-sponsor a meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Robert S. Peabody Museum, Main Street.

The program, "Maushop's Site: The Archaeology of Native American Ritualism," is open to the public free of charge. Of special note: the monthly meeting is one week earlier than usual.

The speaker, Dr. Thomas Mahlstedt, formerly with the National Park Service and the Massachusetts Historical Commission, is currently the chief archaeologist for Boston's Metropolitan District Commission. His presentation highlights the significance of a one-of-a-kind prehistoric site, discovered in Quincy, Mass.

Organizers said, "An amazing assortment of artifacts, dating from the late archaic to the early woodland periods, were retrieved, while performing a salvage project in July of this year."

The Massachusetts Archaeology Society - Northeast Chapter meets the third Tuesday of the month, September through June.

Membership to the Massachusetts Archaeology Society and the Northeast Chapter is open to all those interested in furthering their study of archaeology and Native American cultural history.

For more information concerning monthly programs or chapter membership, call the museum at 749-4490.

YMCA to offer lifeguarding courses in January

The Lawrence and Andover/North Andover YMCA branches will offer

American Red Cross life-guarding courses in January. Participants must be at least 15 years old and able to swim 500 yards non-stop, front crawl, elementary backstroke, breaststroke and side-stroke. First aid and CPR are included in the class. Textbooks are included in the cost of the course.

Testing for the Lawrence course will be held Monday, Jan. 3, from 6 to 7 p.m. and for the Andover/North Andover Branch, Wednesday, Jan. 19, from 8:15 to 9:15 p.m.

Lawrence classes will be held Tuesdays, Jan. 4-Feb. 27, from 6 to 9 p.m. CPR will be held Saturday, Jan. 29, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Andover/North Andover classes will be held Mondays and Wednesdays, Jan. 24-Feb. 16, from 6 to 9:30 p.m. CPR for this course will be held at the American Red Cross in Ward Hill from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information, call Diane Davies at the Andover/North Andover Branch at 685-3541, or Terri Nelson at the Lawrence Branch at 686-6191.

RELIGION NEWS

(Continued from page 33)

wards. Call Cantor Donn Rosensweig at 470-1356.

Talk at Chabad Center

Rivka Slonim will give a lecture on "Total Immersion - A Jewish Perspective of G-d and Intimacy" Sunday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m. at the Chabad Center, 310 North Main St.

Slonim is the education director at the Chabad House Jewish Student Center in Binghamton,

N.Y. She travels widely, addressing the intersection of traditional Jewish observance and contemporary life, with a special focus on Jewish women in Jewish law and life.

For more information and/or reservation, call Chabad Lubavitch of Merrimack Valley at 475-1853.

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Baystate Electronics recently relocated 1 mile north from its old location to 1487 Main St. (Rte. 38) in Tewksbury. The new facility continues to service electronic equipment and appliances including VCRs, televisions (and big screens), CD players, Nintendos, cassette recorders, cameras, microwaves, and slide and overhead projectors, to name a few. All the repair work is done on the premises by experienced technicians who use only the manufacturer's original parts. The work is guaranteed for 90 days and the estimates are free. Now is the time to check your camcorder, VCR, and television to make sure they are all

in good working order for the holiday season.

Baystate Electronics provides free pickup and delivery service for televisions for seniors and handicapped citizens in the Tewksbury area. Pickup service in surrounding towns is available for a nominal fee. The company also sells refurbished VCRs, televisions, CD players, and receivers.

Two years ago, the company introduced a new service that provides presentation equipment for businesses, conference centers, and hotels. Baystate Electronics can set-up your entire presentation including slide projectors, overhead projectors, LCD projectors, studio

cameras, televisions, camcorders, VCRs, sound equipment, microphones, mixers, charts, easels, podiums, and drapery. For more detailed information of this unique service, call 1-800-439-5261.

Baystate Electronics is a member of the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the National Electronics Sales and Service Dealers Association and the Better Business Bureau.

Baystate Electronics' new address is 1487 Main St. (Rte. 38), Tewksbury. Hours are weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday until 8 p.m.; and Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon. Telephone: (978) 851-3012.

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As the holidays approach, Hometown Seafoods is gearing up for customers needing specialty items for parties, gifts, and family reunions. As a matter of practice, Hometown Seafoods will always attempt to search out any special item you may desire, and around this time of the year, their stock is upgraded to include many seasonal favorites.

You'll find shucked oysters for your stuffing and stews, oysters in the shell, salt cod (bacala), fresh smelt, fresh squid, octopus, and jumbo king crab legs. This season also provides Dungeness Crabs, Cape Cod Bay Scallops (Capes), live or dressed eels, and Florida Stone Crabs, just to name a few.

Shrimp, a huge holiday party favorite, is for the average consumer the hardest item to understand. There is a large variation in quality, and it is often very difficult to know why one shrimp is so much better than another. Although, most shrimp is safe to eat, getting a great quality shrimp is seldom easy to do. Around the holidays, many merchants run specials, using low quality, mislabeled, repacked, and/or

they push out old inventory (they figure you'll never know), and actually in many cases the store owner, dept. supervisor, and the sales person don't realize what they are selling. At Hometown Seafoods, the selection is large and varied, and you know you are getting absolute top quality!

Gene, from Hometown Seafoods has 30 years (this amazes him also) of hands-on knowledge in the seafood industry. He is well aware of the games that are played to change the color, texture and odor of both fresh and frozen seafood. When Gene purchased Hometown Seafoods eight years ago, he made a decision to cut NO corners. Often, quality could be trimmed to increase the profit margin, but Gene has decided to avoid that option at all costs and provide you with the absolute top quality, whether imported or fresh from the boats in Gloucester, where Gene lives and begins each day at the wharves.

Hor d'ourves are another special reason to visit Hometown Seafoods. Delicious mushrooms stuffed with crabmeat, scallops wrapped in bacon, shrimp

cocktail platters, their famous Lobster Dip (also available in a mold shaped like a lobster), cocktail crab claws, smoked seafood, and much more make Hometown Seafoods a must stop for any party.

Seafood is a great choice for a dinner party also. It is simple to cook and if you don't feel up to preparing your own from Hometown's fresh fish case, you may want to explore the prepared items available ready to cook. They include crabmeat stuffed sole rolls, acorn squash stuffed with scallops, baked had-dock, and fresh salmon pie, to name a few. There is also a large selection of prepared frozen entrees for those busy evenings or when you just want a break. All are delicious and healthy. Most important, you can always depend on the quality of Hometown Seafoods.

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Lundstrom, Troy Brandon
Lynn, Jason
Magner, Elizabeth Margaret
Maki, Junko
Martin, Gregory Paul
McDonough, Anne Carolyn
Muller, Jenny Ann
Murphy, Brian Francis
Murphy, Loma Marie
Nelson, Nels Olaf
Olsheskie, Mary Claire
Orlando, Kathryn Elizabeth
Ortiz, Monica Elise
Palmieri, Amy Ruth
Parsons, Eileen Lenore
Pearson, Emily Jeanne
Pilla, Gregory Michael
Rillahan, Cory Daniel
Roberge, Andrea J.
Saunders, Lindsey Blair
Shannon, Alison Marie
Singelais, Jamie Katherine
Singh, Vikram Emmanuel
Stevens, Russell Bentley
Szafarz, Jesse Ova
Tang, Cynthia Wee Lee
Toland, Meghan Ruth
Tran, Duy Duc

Vasilakis, Deanna Cynthia
Wacks, Hillary Nadine
Wang, Phillip Justin
Williams, Jennie Mary

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Adams, Alexis Elizabeth
Affleck, Kellen Rachel
Ahern, Andrew William
Alberico, Brian Remie
Aleksa, David Walter
Ashton, Heather Lee
Auchterlonie, Stefanie J.
Azemati, Hanna
Barry, Justin Ernest
Berberian, Carolyn Ann
Berger, Meryl Leigh
Berlinghieri, Valerie Irene
Bernstein, Sheri Beth
Birrell, Brittany Suzanne
Bobek, Emily
Booth, Daniel Steve
Borden, Jennifer A.
Bourque, Alicia Marie
Brickley, Andrew Brian
Britton, Victoria Elizabeth
Brouillard, Elyse Marie
Brown, Connie Marie
Brown, Nicole Marie
Brucato, Nicholas Nunzio
Buchholz, Amanda Joanne
Calderhead, Sean M.
Callahan, Aislinn Rose

Campbell, Lea Megan
Carroll, Brett Joseph
Caselle, Christina Adrienne
Chamberlin, Scott Lehn
Chang, Jonathan Baldwin
Chao, Glenda Ellen
Cherry, Justin Joshua
Cho, Casey
Chretien, Edward Martin
Cline, Alexander Samuel
Cohen, Jeremy David
Collins, Jacquelyn McLean
Corey, Michael Thomas
Crawford, Kelly Anne
Daley, Ashley Marie
Dargan, Kerrie Ann
Denison, Laura Ann
Dennis, Rebecca Lee
Derby, Christopher Paul
Distefano, Jordan Nichole
Dolan, Patrick William
Donahue, Kristen Diane
Dukeshire, Sarah Elizabeth
Eghbalian, Monika Zahra
English, Williams Eidson
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Hale, Courtney Jocelyn
Hallstrom, Sarah Kate
Hammer, Caitlin Elaine
Hanson, Corinne Elaine
Harrison, Colleen Janet
Hartwell, Gregory Martin
Hegarty, Ashley Anne
Holber, Thomas Eliot
Hornung, Jenicka Michelle
Hughes, Samantha E.
Iannelli, Lisa Marie
Ibe, Amanze Chinadu
Kaminski, Christopher S.
Keating, Heather Christina
Keeling, Christopher Scott
Kimura, Yayoi
Klatzker, Leah MacKenzie
Klatzker, Rachel Clark
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Lamond, David John
Landry, Kurt Arthur
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Malhotra, Rohit
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Matthews, Audrey Renee
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Nelson, Christopher M.
Nill, David Gordon
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Andover High New Wave High School honors

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BUSINESS PROFILES



From left, owners Sharon DiZazzo and Tracy Middleton, and Cassie Morrill, owner of Nails by Cassie

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care product line to include Joico, Graham Webb, Bed Head, and Fudge.

Cassie Morrill is the nail care specialist for Allure Salon, and as a holiday special, until the end of January, she is offering 10 percent off any combination manicure and pedicure. Carrie is also offering \$5.00 off a full set of acrylic nails.

Until the end of January, Allure Salon is giving a free hair care product with any hair care

service. The salon is promoting gift certificates for the holiday season. They make great last minute gifts and come gift wrapped.

The staff at Allure Salon would like to extend their best wishes for a happy holiday season and a safe and healthy New Year.

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BUSINESS PROFILES



Left to right, Kristen Donegan, Joanne Lunney, Ken St. Pierre, Judy Brezner, Laura Fedele

Andover Massage Therapy

People go to Andover Massage Therapy for all kinds of reasons. Some go with specific physical complaints such as low back ache, stiff neck, restricted shoulders, headaches and sports injuries which perhaps other modalities have not helped. While others go with the awareness that they can reduce their stress related complaints with some relaxing massage. Many are discovering that massage can be a useful part of one's preventative health-care. Faced with the stress of our fast paced way of life, for many, massage is far from being an "indulgence" as it means fewer headaches, less pain, and a greater level of functioning in every-

day life.

Sometimes pain is caused by trigger points in the muscles. The pain causes the muscle to spasm, leading to decreased blood flow and more pain. Deep tissue massage and trigger point work can break this pain/spasm cycle. Just as each person is different, each massage is tailored to individual needs and may involve a combination of techniques.

Six therapist now work out of Andover Massage Therapy. Bethany Boggatto (not pictured) joined the staff in July and is building a clientele rapidly. She is a graduate of The New Hampshire Institute of Therapeutic Arts

and specializes in deep tissue massage for chronic pain and injury rehabilitation. All therapists are licensed by the Town of Andover and are active members of the American Massage Therapy Association. Day, evening, and Saturday appointments are available.

Gift Certificates make the perfect gift for the holidays and are available for 1/2 hour (\$35), one hour (\$60), and 1-1/2 hours (\$85) sessions. Calls for information and appointments are returned promptly. The office is located downtown at 93 Main Street in Olde Andover Village.

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LOCAL ATHLETES

Andover Mite A team wins Heseltine Tournament

The Andover Mite A hockey team skated over Thanksgiving weekend to win the Scott Heseltine Tournament on often slushy ice at the Phillips Academy rink. This is only the third time in the 17 years of the tournament that an Andover team has brought home the cup.

Each of the eight participating teams skated once Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The winners of both Friday's and Saturday's games, Masconomet and Andover, came together in the championship game Sunday afternoon.

The Andover Mite A team won the first round on Friday in a high-scoring game against North Andover. North Andover gained a three-goal lead in the first few minutes of the first period, but Andover battled back with an 8 to 5 win. Goals were scored by Matt Perry, George Flanagan, Michael Yastrzemski and Edward Dix.

Andover faced a Haverhill team in the next round on Saturday. The teams were evenly matched and sustained a 1 to 1 score throughout the first two periods, Dix scoring his second goal of the tournament. Christian Benedix secured the win in the third period with the final goal. With a man short, the Andover defense and goalie Kelly Cooke fought off a six-man Haverhill offense in the last minute of the game.

Andover achieved another dramatic win over undefeated Masconomet Sunday afternoon. The two teams skated aggressively both on offense and defense. Goalie Cooke saved 20 shots on the goal. Andover led 2-0 (goals scored by Flanagan and Perry) until the third period when Masconomet earned back-to-back goals. The two teams dueled until the final two minutes when Flanagan scored the tournament-winner.

The Scott Heseltine Tournament is conducted annually on Thanksgiving weekend in memory of Scott Heseltine, who started skating at the Phillips rink at the age of 4 and who played through the Midget level in the Andover Hockey Association until his life ended in a tragic accident in 1982. In his memory, this annual tournament is organized and run by the team's parents, and conducted with the primary interests of sportsmanship, camaraderie and fun.

After the tournament, head coach Larry Lamagna lauded his players, "I was impressed with the team's dedication and consistently high level of play throughout this tournament. They are a great group of kids and real team players."



Photo by Bill Miller

We are the champions — The victorious Andover Mite A team. Bottom row, from left: Alex Patti, George Flanagan, Matthew Perry, Kelly Cooke, Christopher Halloran, Christian Benedix, Ryan Heavey. Back row, James Miller, Michael Yastrzemski, Joseph Lamagne, Gavin McIver, Richard Retelle, Brian Russell, Edward Dix, Matthew Rayner. Standing, coaches John McIver, Larry Lamagna and Peter Retelle.



Andover at Andover — These Andover residents, members of the Phillips Academy varsity soccer team, celebrate their 3-2 victory over Deerfield Academy. From left are: senior midfielder Alan Ginsberg, junior fullback Emerson Sykes, senior fullback Brendan Pytko, sophomore forward James Ford, junior midfielder Vikas Goela, senior forward Justin Pytko, and sophomore midfielder Dan Cote.

Attack go to finals

The Andover Soccer Association's Under 12 Division I Boys' Attack completed the fall season with a 12-1-0 record. The lone loss came in the Division I finals of

the Columbus Day tournament, the Nashua World Cup.

The Attack earned a trip to the finals with four wins, including a first-round victory over defending champions Nashua WC Torpedoes, and a semifinal 2-

0 overtime win over the Spirit of Mass. The team played some of their best soccer of the season in the final against South Shore United and conceded two goals on unstoppable shots and a penalty kick to fall 0-3.

The team finished the season with 45 goals for, 7 goals against, 9 shutout victories and a 4-1-0 record.

◀ **Attack team members are, front row, from left, David Rountree, Jon Gurry, Doug LaRose, Adam Rousmaniere, Joey Savora, Mike McKenzie, Jason Sheldon, Colin Hutzler; back row, Assistant Coach Art Rousmaniere, Pat Tonelli, Mike Galaburda, Max Ball, Matt Wacks, Tyler Hyslep, Greg Levis, Mike Baldwin, Pumi Maqubela, Sam Ball, Coach Paul Bellacqua. Not pictured: Assistant Coach Temba Maqubela.**



Photo by Mary Ellen McIver

George and Charlie Heseltine enjoy the tournament from the stands. George, Scott's dad, coached in the Andover Hockey Association for 22 years.

SPORTSTALK

(Continued from page 42)

freshman forward on the Union College women's field hockey team.

Casper played in three of the first eight games for the Dutchwomen this fall.

Kristen Wysocki, a former three-sport standout at Andover High, has helped the nationally-ranked Merrimack College women's volleyball team to an 8-1 start this fall.

Junior middle hitter Wysocki contributed 13 attacks, eight kills and nine blocks in a recent 3-0 Northeast-10 Conference victory over Bryant College.

Sue Cookson of Andover, a senior midfielder on the Merrimack College women's soccer team, was recently selected first-team Northeast-10 All-Conference for the third straight year.

Cookson was second in assists for the Lady Warriors this fall with 15.

Becky Adams of Andover played No. 1 singles and doubles for the Roger Williams University women's tennis team this fall.

Brenna O'Connor of Andover is a sophomore freestyler on the 1999-2000 Emory University women's swim & dive team.

Chris Cullen of Andover, a sophomore forward on the SUNY-Cortland ice hockey team, scored a goal to help power the Red Dragons past Buffalo State, 5-3, in recent action.

Cullen, a Plattsburgh State transfer, also contributed an assist in a 7-3 loss to Plattsburgh State and two goals, one assist in a 6-4 triumph over Potsdam State.

He later set up the first goal, and scored the game-winner on a second-period power play, as Cortland edged Skidmore, 2-1.

Cortland State was 7-3 after 10 games.

Cullen is the son of Andover High varsity hockey coach **Bill Cullen**.

Megan Roth of Andover, a sophomore at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, earned her second varsity letter as a member of this fall's women's soccer team.

The Spartans' midfielder and nursing major played in 11 games, starting two, and passed out an assist.

Case Western finished 9-9-1 overall, breaking five team records including most goals in a season (40).

Ed Seero of Andover is a junior forward on the Assumption College varsity ice hockey team.

Seero, a graduate of Pingree School, had one goal and one assist for the Greyhounds last winter.



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**COMMONWEALTH OF
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THE TRIAL COURT
THE PROBATE
AND FAMILY COURT
DEPARTMENT
Essex Division
Docket No. 95P 1362-EP1
NOTICE OF FIDUCIARY'S
ACCOUNT**

To all persons interested in the estate of MARGARET BASCOM late of 107 Chestnut Street, Andover, MA, Essex County 01810.

You are hereby notified pursuant to Mass. R. Civ. P. Rule 72 that the substituted first account of DAVID B. EUSDEN as Executor (the fiduciary) under the will of said deceased has been presented to said Court for allowance.

If you desire to preserve your right to file an objection to said account(s), you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said Court at Salem on or before

the third day of January, 2000, the return day of this citation. You may upon written request by registered or certified mail to the fiduciary, or to the attorney for the fiduciary, obtain without cost a copy of said account. If you desire to object to any item of said account, you must in addition to filing a written appearance as aforesaid, file within thirty days after said return day or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order a written statement of each such item together with the grounds for each objection thereto, a copy to be served upon the fiduciary pursuant to Mass. R. Civ. P. Rule 5.

Witness, EDWARD J. ROCKETT, Esquire, First Justice of said Court at Salem this first day of December, 1999

Pamela Casey O'Brien
Register of Probate Court
December 9, 1999

**COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE
AND FAMILY COURT
DEPARTMENT
ESSEX DIVISION
Docket No. 99P2688-EP1
NOTICE**

In the ESTATE OF RALPH J. WIRTZ

To all persons interested in the estate of RALPH J. WIRTZ late of the County of Essex Date of Death, June 11, 1999

A petition has been presented in the above captioned matter praying that a certain instrument be probated purporting to be the last will of said deceased by R. PATRICIA WIRTZ of Andover in the County of Essex, praying that she be appointed executrix thereof, without giving sureties on her bond.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT Salem Probate Court, 36 Federal St., Salem, MA 01970 BEFORE 10:00 O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 A.M.) ON December 20, 1999.

Wills only: In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

Witness, Edward J. Rockett, Esquire, First Justice of said Court. Date November 18, 1999.

Pamela Casey O'Brien
Register of Probate Court
December 9, 1999

**COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE
AND FAMILY COURT
DEPARTMENT
ESSEX DIVISION
Docket No. 99P2333-AD1
NOTICE**

In the PATRICK MICHAEL SWEENEY

To all persons interested in the estate of PATRICK MICHAEL SWEENEY late of the County of Essex Date of Death, October 26, 1998

A petition has been presented in the above captioned matter praying that JOHN E. SWEENEY of Londonderry in the State of New Hampshire be appointed administrator thereof without giving sureties on his bond.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT Salem Probate Court, 36 Federal St., Salem, MA 01970 BEFORE 10:00 O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 A.M.) ON January 3, 2000

Wills only: In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

Witness, Edward J. Rockett, Esquire, First Justice of said Court. Date November 29, 1999.

Pamela Casey O'Brien
Register of Probate Court
December 9, 1999

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PROPERTY TRANSFERS

The following is a list of properties that sold in Andover from June 1-Aug. 26.

1 Andrew J. and Kristen L. Pelletier bought 1 North St. for \$280,000, from Glenn R. and Deborah P. Street. The mortgages are with Norwest Mortgage of Massachusetts and Norwest Bank Colorado.

2 Haeyoung H. Kim bought 342 Salem St. for \$280,000, from Laurence P. O'Toole and Joan Karpinski. The mortgage is with Norwest Mortgage of Massachusetts, Inc.

3 Mary Ellen Gardiepy bought 16 Balmoral St. for \$106,900, from Doreen Cassidy.

4 James M. and Kathleen A. O'Neill bought 2 Sawyers Lane for \$775,000, from Daniel P. and Lynette J. Conroy. The mortgage is with GMAC Mortgage Corp.

5 James White bought 16 Juliette St. for \$140,000, from Thomas F. and Amy C. Chisholm. The mortgage is with North American Mortgage Co.

6 Jane C. Legere bought 19 Brady Loop for \$389,900, from Daniel P. and Marycarol P. Rossignol. The mortgage is with PNC Mortgage Corp of America.

7 Todd C. and Celia B. Lowenberg bought 11 Somerset Drive for \$512,500, from Michael G. and Lisa B. Muirhead. The mortgage is with Peoples Mortgage Corp.

8 Arthur J. and Marcia E. Vancini bought 2 Brentwood Circle for \$410,000, from Linda C. Carpenter. The mortgage is with Washington Mutual Bank FA.

9 David B. and Sheila M. Kimball bought 72 Wildrose Drive for \$308,000. The mortgage is with Norwest Bank of Colorado N.A.

10 J. Craig and Kathy K. Keeliong bought 261 River Road for \$442,500, from John C. and Joan M. Roberts. The mortgage



Photo by Lisa Adelsberger

This home, at 2 Sawyers Lane, was recently sold for \$775,000.

is with Hunneman Mortgage Corp.

11 Bruce W. and Kimberly A. Baker bought 5 Punchard Ave. for \$247,000, from David L. and Tracy J. Feer. The mortgage is with Salem Five Mortgage Corp.

12 Peter W. and Deborah R. Smith bought 60 Central St. for \$815,000, from Ploussios Realty Trust, George Ploussios Tr. Elizabeth Case. The mortgages are with Norwest Mortgage of Massachusetts and Norwest Bank of Colorado.

13 Christopher J. Bated and Deborah S. Sheppard bought 143 Lovejoy Road for \$295,000, from Attilio and Sandra W. Tenaglia. The mortgage is with Interstate National Mortgage Corp.

14 Thomas M. and Christen L. Hazel bought 68 Carmel Road for \$296,500, from Theodore J. and Susan Henry Morin. The mortgage is with Hunneman Mortgage Corp.

15 Priah L. Singh bought 5 Freemont Lane for \$615,000. The mortgage is with Liberty Bank and Trust.

16 William R. and Cynthia R. Webber bought 9 Gavin Circle for \$380,000, from Thomas W. and Andrea R. Raymond. The mortgage is with Hunneman Mortgage Corp.

17 Eric C. and Robina W. Egerton bought 5 Kathleen Drive for \$615,000, from Scott A. and Jeanne E. Clark. The mortgage is with Salem Five Mortgage Corp.

18 Scott A. and Jeanne E. Clark bought 57 Cheever Circle for \$465,000, from James M. and Kristina A. Collins, Ursula T. Tomlinson. The mortgage is with Norwest Mortgage of Massachusetts Inc.

Source: Essex County Registry of Deeds, Lawrence Branch.

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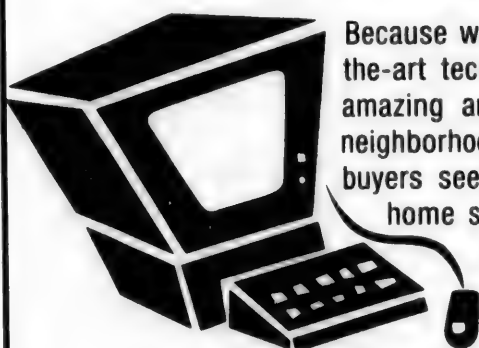
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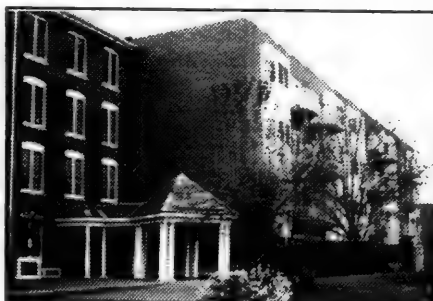
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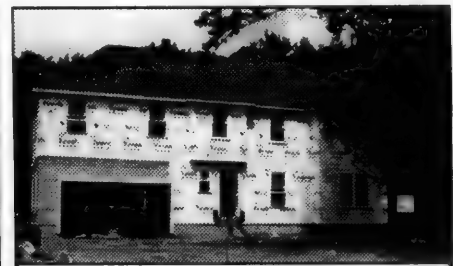
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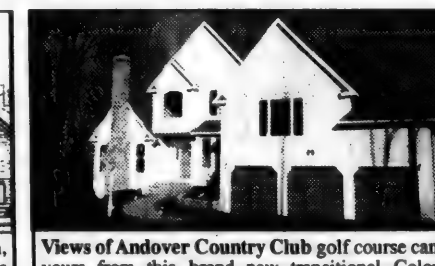
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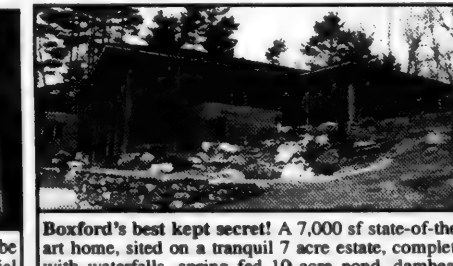
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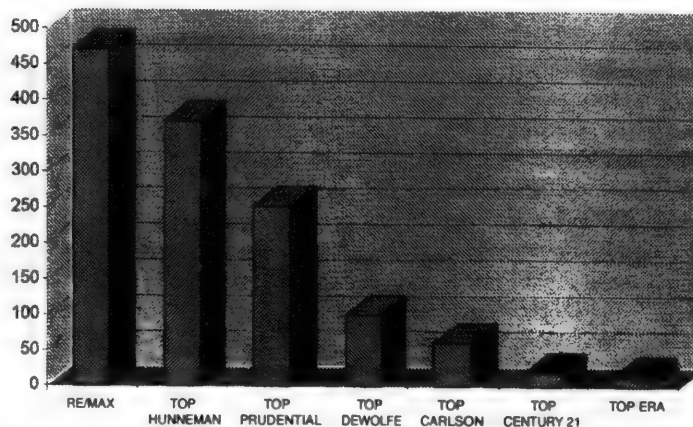
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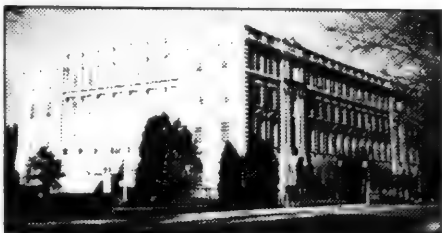
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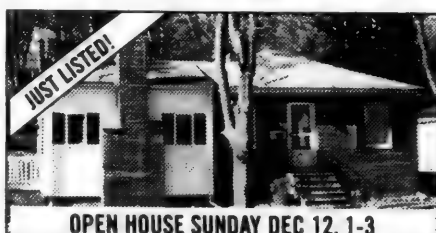
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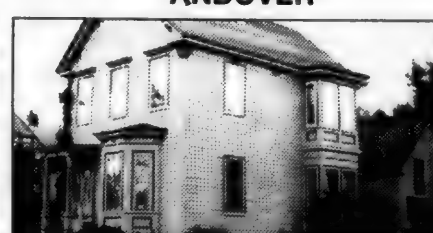
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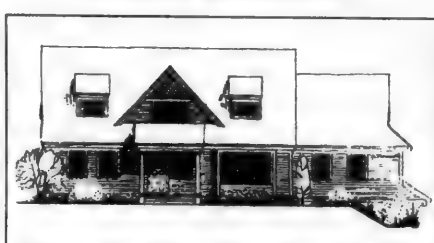
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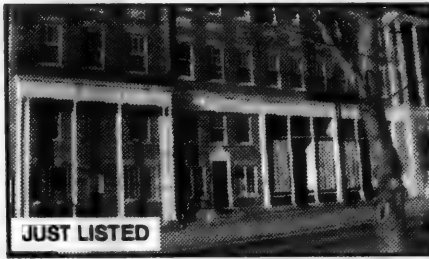


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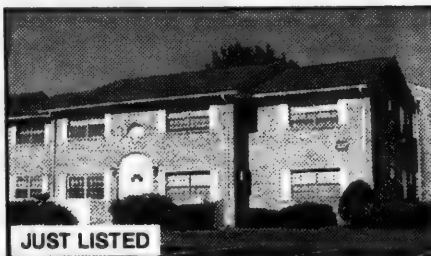
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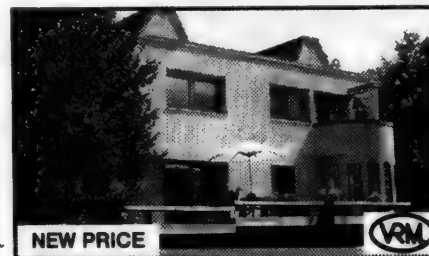
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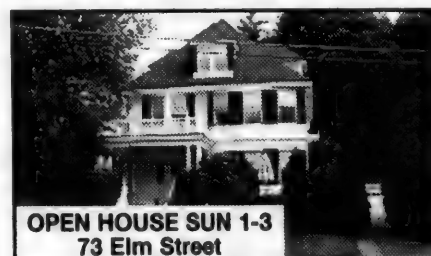
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ANDOVER - Elegant, exquisite, and almost new, is
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and breakfast area totally enclosed with glass, views
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Holiday Gift Guide



■ Ideas for those suffering from gift-buying anxiety start on page 2A.

Suffering gift-buying anxiety? Here are some suggestions

By Michelle Eld and Jennifer Valeri

Wondering what to buy this year? Shopping provides anxiety for most of us, at one time or another. We asked local retailers what was popular this year, including some suggestions for the hard-to-buy-for people.

It isn't a secret that jewelry is always a favorite of women.

The 14-karat gold and cultured pearl necklace is still high on many women's wish list this year. Made famous in last year's movie, "Tin Cup", the necklace is a variation on the standard pearl necklace. Each pearl is strung with a 14-karat gold chain between the pearl. But, cautions Jean Foley at Clifford Jewelers in North Andover, the necklace is far from "trendy".

"It's in style and perfect for the fashion-conscious," said Ms. Foley, "but it is also a classic, because of the pearls." The necklace is available in 16-inch, 18-inch, 20-inch and 24-inch lengths.

For the hard-to-buy-for grandmother, a "Mother's Basket" is a perfect choice. Designed with a concept of a mother's ring, the basket is actually 14-karat gold pin shaped as a basket. Inside, each flower has a stone, representing the birth month of either grandchildren or both children and grandchildren.

Up to 12 stones can be added, so larger families usually opt to only represent the grandchildren. "It is just something special," said Ms. Foley.



Photos by Patricia Ryan

Funky alarm clocks, like these blowfish ones, are popular items among teens.

For men, watches can satisfy a man's desire for uniqueness. Swiss Army watches are always popular, but this year, the newest design is a pocket watch. The Swiss Army pocket watch comes in a leather case, and is made of stainless steel. "There are some men who can't have enough watches," she said.

Teens

Jewelry is also a gift option at the

Andover's Gift Shop. If there are young people on your list, Power Beads are all the rage. (See related story, page 12A.) The beads are in various colors, each with certain meanings. All of the meanings are positive, said Debbie Lane of the Andover's Gift Shop, and teenagers are fascinated by them. Another plus - the beads are popular with both girls and boys.

Also in the jewelry category is

(Continued on page 4A)



Ideas to get you started

Need some quick ideas?

Christmas.com offers 100 gift ideas for people on your list. We sorted their suggestions into groups of people you might be shopping for.

Newlyweds:

- When just starting out, very few couples are equipped for all holidays. A gift of Christmas tree ornaments or holiday decorations will be appreciated. Try to consider the couple's taste when shopping and know that someone else will buy them an ornament that reads, "Our First Christmas".

- Give the gift of a garden. If the couple lives in an apartment, consider a window herb garden. Or if possible, select a planting pot and fill it with seed packets, gardening tools and a how-to book on planting.

- Cooking is a hurdle for some couples. Wrap a cookbook with your favorite recipe marked and packaging the dry ingredients in a

(Continued on page 6A)

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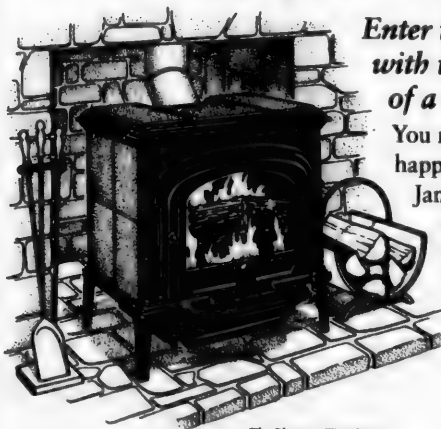
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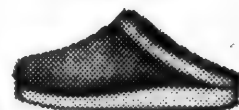
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Suggestions for those suffering from gift-buying anxiety

(Continued from page 2A)

sterling silver - either chokers or lockets. Chokers are in style with all women, young and old, and sterling silver seems to be the preferred choice.

"Locketts are perfect when given from someone special, like a loving aunt or uncle," said Ms. Lane. "It's a very meaningful gift."

Myan bead jewelry is also in style this year. The pieces are inexpensive, in the range of \$8 to \$15. "The beads are

beautiful," she said. "You can give those to just about everybody. They are so beautiful, they are almost magical. They are perfect for any age, adults as well as children."

But jewelry isn't the only option for teenagers. Alarm clocks are becoming popular at Ms. Lane's shop. In assorted shape and characters, the clocks are a hit with teens looking to be just a bit different. "There's one shaped like a blowfish that seems to be really popular," she said.

Wooden boxes, topped with a clear cover, appeal to both genders, but more men than women. The boxes come in sizes from a pill box to about two-inches by six-inches. The clear cover is fairly tight and serves the purpose of a make-shift wallet, a pill box or basic carry-all. "They're really beautiful," said Ms. Lane, "but there's something about men and wood."

Magnets make a quirky gift, especially a magnetic poetry kit. The kit includes a variety of magnets, all displaying one word. The person can use the kit on a refrigerator, file cabinet or locker, mixing and matching the words to make their own poem. The gift is perfect for any creative one on your list and serves to be a little inspiring.

"We have sets of small magnets, too," said Ms. Lane, "with pets, or trucks or other shapes, that are so cute, just because they are tiny."

Scented candles and incense appeal to all ages, but if you are shopping for a niece, nephew or friend, be sure to check what the family's rules are about lighting them.

Advice for shopping for the senior citizens of your list? Traditional gifts of framed photos, stationery and sachets are recommended, but Ms. Lane offers her own suggestion. Each year she makes up a basket of tasty, non-perishable treats for her mother-in-law. As the winter approaches, some older people dread shopping and venturing



The Millennium Survival Kit by Moet & Chandon, is the Millennium Survival Kit. It features a metal suitcase filled with two magnums of Moet, a camera, a commemorative silver frame and pen. "Those are going very well," said Jim Price of Messina's Liquors in North Andover.

out in the snow. Ms. Lane said the basket is sort of a snow survival kit. "She loves it," she said. "I know she does."

Liquor

For the person who has everything,

(Continued on page 8A)



Photos by Patricia Ryan

According to Debbie Lane of the Andovers Gift Shop, teenagers are fascinated by power beads. The unisex beads come in various colors, each with certain positive meanings. See related story, page 12A.



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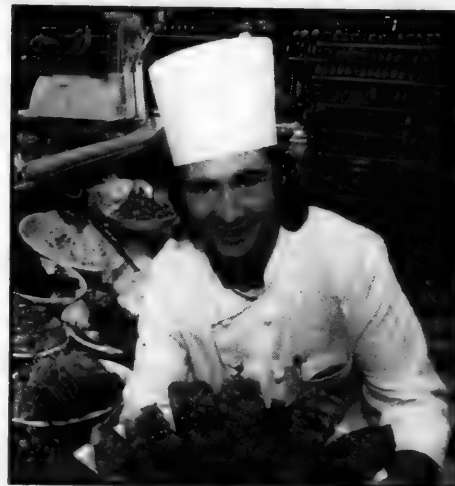
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Ideas for everyone on your list: students, seniors, professionals

(Continued from page 2A)

pretty mixing bowl will add a nice touch.

- Add tools to the list of what you need but never think to purchase. Fill a small tool box with a hammer, pliers, wrench, screwdrivers, nails, nuts and bolts. If the couple are new homeowners, a gift certificate to a hardware or building supply store would be put to good use.

Teenagers/college students:

- What is the milestone for all teenagers? Driving. If the teen on your list is flashing his or her new license, perhaps a road-side safety kit would be the perfect gift. Jumper cables, a flashlight, flares and other useful tools are a must, but often overlooked.

- Give the gift of gab. College students living away from home will appreciate a phone card. Rolls of quarters, for laundry or pay phones, are also a necessity for the dorm-dwelling student.

- While you might be trying to avoid it, gift certificates fit any teen. Music stores, malls and coffee shops are frequented by many teenagers and all offer gift certificates.

- Is your teen into health and fitness? Hand weights, a gym bag,



workout/yoga mat, workout clothing or even a tape of workout music will be put to good use.

Grandparents/senior citizens:

- To a grandparent, nothing is more important than bragging about their grandchildren. Picture frames, especially those that are hand-decorated, are perfect to display family photos. For the craftier types, how about creating a scrapbook? All the rage this season, scrapbook materials are in just about every craft store and even some discount stores. Involve the children and turn it into a family event. Or if grandma and grandpa are crafty, give them the supplies, some pictures and let them create their own family memento.

- For grandparents who live far away, prepare a package of gifts surrounding their grandchildren. Children's artwork, photos of events they might have missed, videos and even personal letters from the children (no matter how small) are more touching than any gift from the mall.

- Coffee or tea? If you know the person's preference, you can wrap flavored teas or coffee in a beautiful mug or tea cup. For the coffee drinkers, chocolate-covered teaspoons add

everyone's favorite flavor.

- Homemade goodies suit every occasion. Cakes, fudge or cookies are perfect, especially for those who don't bake. Try to think of the person's lifestyle, however. If your loved one doesn't have a sweet tooth, perhaps flavored oils, breads or even salsa would be appreciated. Jams and jellies last forever and are easier to make than you might think.

- As corny as it sounds, time is the best gift. Ask the senior citizens in your life if they need help with anything, if there is a task they'd like you to complete for Christmas. Simple acts like washing windows, Christmas shopping or writing out Christmas cards can be a chore. A helping hand might be nicer than anything you could purchase.

For the person who has everything:

- Even your most finicky friends would appreciate a gift certificate to a local restaurant. Dinner out is enjoyed by everyone.

- Art lovers might enjoy a membership to a local or national museum. Members enjoy advance notice of certain events and receive a variety of discounts and benefits.

- Pampering is

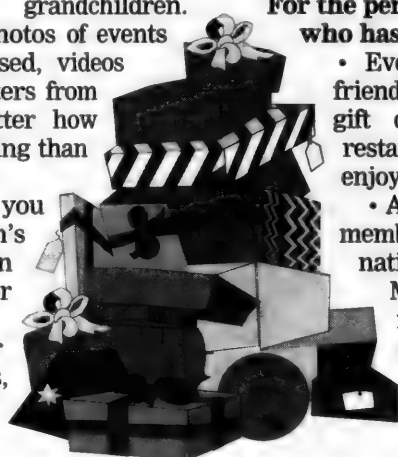
always in style. A gift certificate for a massage, facial or even a manicure will be a welcome treat. Or a do-it-yourself pampering set-up is just as special. For the feet, a pumice stone, foot salts, peppermint foot cream, slippers and pretty socks to sleep in can all be packaged in a foot basin. Nail implements, products and sweet-scented hand cream combine for an at-home manicure.

- A wine connoisseur already has the best corkscrew, so how about unique bottle stoppers? Wrap your wine in a handmade felt stocking, personalized to suit the host or hostess's taste.

- When in doubt, wrap it up. Gift baskets of smaller items combine to make a practical and thoughtful gift. For example, a golfer always needs golf balls and golf tees. Combine those with a baseball cap, sunscreen, score card and a small towel and wrap together in a golf bag or a simple basket. For the skier on your list, goggles, lip balm, gloves, ski passes, wax and a scarf are all necessities of winter.

- Wrap a craft in a box. If you know a crafty type, use a plastic organizer box to hold the materials needed for a particular craft. Books are available in every craft store and some projects can even be found on-line. Stock all the essentials in the box and let them design their own gift.

(Continued on page 8A)



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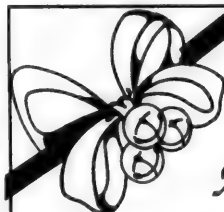


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You've probably heard about the M-Class by now. After all, it was Motor Trend's 1998 "Truck of the Year" when it debuted. It was the first SUV ever certified as a Low Emission Vehicle. It's still the only SUV with both the driving poise of four-wheel independent suspension and the brawn to tow up to 5,000 lbs. The M-Class continues its trail-blazing tradition for 2000. The V-6 powered ML 320 and ML 430 V-8 are the first SUVs with six standard air bags. Their spacious cabins have been richly refined. And if that's not enough, the new 342-hp ML 55 AMG is simply the most powerful SUV in production.

It's like it went to finishing school and Outward Bound in one summer

At first, you might only see how the new color-keyed exterior trim complements its futuristic shape. And while the rugged ML 320 still features innovative four-wheel drive, the groundbreaking electronic stability program and remarkably smooth road manners, more than 100 improvements have made this the most enjoyable ML 320 yet. A few examples: the wide doors are double-seated for a quieter ride. One hundred percent genuine burl walnut is just one of the richer materials in the thoroughly refined cabin. And new Touch Shift control for the five-speed automatic transmission lets you enjoy the 215-hp V6 all the more. What SUV ever seemed so smart?



The luxury won't surprise you half as much as the joy of driving it

Among all the luxury SUVs, it's the unexpected that sets the 2000 ML 430 apart. It's the first SUV with in-dash satellite navigation, standard. Its hand-fitted leather upholstery extends to the seat side panels, door trim and all five head restraints. Safety features include not two but six air bags, and five three-point seat belts. Its efficient, low-emission V-8 packs 268 hp and whisks the ML 430 from 0 to 60 in 8.0 seconds. The five-speed automatic features the new Touch Shift Control. And the

handling? *Car and Driver* praised the ML 430 in a way most luxury SUVs would never expect: "quick on its feet" and "fun to drive."

Sometimes it's all about the possibilities

The magic of a sport utility vehicle often lies within. What it can carry. Who you can bring with you. And how to discover the romance of the road, the sky and the great outdoors. The 2000 M-Class is someplace new to explore. Its imaginatively designed cabin welcomes you with rich new materials, impressive craftsmanship, and some

choices that'll really open up your point of view (like the optional skyview top.) So whether you seek entertainment, scenery or relaxation in your M-Class, we'd have to say the sky's the limit.

The newly-refined interior will appeal to all of your senses

The M-Class interior has always offered roomy accommodations for people, combined with clever cargo-carrying versatility. For 2000, it offers even more. From the stainless-steel door sill trim to the richer fabric of its headliner, the M-Class has raised the bar in interior quality. The fully color-keyed interior is offered in a new palette of colors. Soft leather upholstery now covers all seat surfaces, as well as the head restraints and the gathered door trim. The new 60/40 split rear seat features the comfort of a center armrest and an easy-to-use folding mechanism. Interior trim is now soft to the touch and richly textured. All the wood trim is hand-polished. And entrance lamps in each of the doors easy your entry and exit.

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1995	C220	Silver/Grey	Sedan	42K miles
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1996	S420	Smoke Silver/Parchment	Luxury Sedan	46K miles
1997	E300	Black/Parchment	Diesel Sedan	36K miles
1998	ML320	Ruby/Tan	SUV	16K miles
1999	ML430	White/Grey	SUV	13K miles
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Suffering from gift-buying anxiety? Here are ideas

(Continued from page 4A)

a bottle of wine, champagne or scotch could make the perfect gift. And with the new millennium right around the corner, liquor can be a nice touch for either Christmas or New Year's Eve. Oftentimes, gift sets are available, combining perhaps a vintage wine with a pair of crystal glasses, and some cheeses or chocolates.

At Messina's Liquors in North Andover, a special millennium champagne gift basket, priced at \$69.99, is attracting attention for New Year celebrations. According to assistant manager Jim Price, this gift set comes with a bottle of Deutz champagne, two Riedel crystal glasses, chocolate truffles and noise makers.

Another unique gift set, put out by Moët & Chandon, is the Millennium Survival Kit. Priced at \$249.99, this kit features a metal suitcase filled with two magnums of Moët, a camera, a commemorative silver frame and pen. "Those are going very well," said Mr. Price.

For scotch lovers, there's the Glenlivet Vintage Collection Set containing five different miniature bottles of unfiltered vintage scotch, with a price tag of \$299.99. "That's pretty rare," said Mr. Price.

Budweiser has also got a New Year special - a Budweiser champagne bottle along with four glasses, for \$49.99.

Sam Adams' millennium bottle is a



Photo by Patricia Ryan

Budweiser has a New Year special - a Budweiser champagne bottle along with four glasses

bit of a conversation piece. It's costly (\$199.99) but consider the fact that only 3,000 bottles were made in all. Three thousand might sound like a lot, but according to Mr. Price, only about 40 were allocated to Massachusetts. The alcohol by volume is 20 percent - more than double what a normal beer is. The millennium bottle is presented in a smooth cherry wood case.

Messina's has a large selection of large-bottle millennium brews, geared for that person who not only enjoys

beer but who would also appreciate a keepsake from the turn of the century.

Old is good, it seems. Mr. Price foresees a surge in "anything vintage," such as cognacs, armagnacs and wine.

If you're on a limited budget, the store has assembled an extensive collection of champagnes for under \$35. According to Mr. Price, Messina's purchased all its champagne last year, in order to be able to sell bottles at below market price now.

Who's buying? Mr. Price said his average customer is affluent, in their 40s and has a bit of disposable income. And this year, he thinks people are going to "step up", in terms of the quality of liquor they've bought in the past. New Year's Eve, especially, is going to be a busy time of year because of all the celebrations going on.

"This is the year you're going to see an enormous amount of house parties," said Mr. Price. Although he's already started to see people coming in to stock up for holiday parties, he thinks the real rush will come two weeks before

Magnets make a quirky gift, especially a magnetic poetry kit. The gift is perfect for any creative one on your list and serves to be a little inspiring.

Gift ideas ...

(Continued from page 6A)

Teachers, hair stylists and other professionals

• First advice, nix the idea of buying anything that says, "#1" anything. Consider how many students, clients and friends have seen the same ornament, magnet or pencil and thought to purchase it. All of us enjoy our work, but hundreds of reminders can be overkill. A teacher with 10 years experience could probably fill an entire tree with teacher ornaments.

• Candles make a sweet but small gift for people you'd like to remember this holiday season. Look at taper candles with a festive candle holder as an alternative to the jar candles that are everywhere.

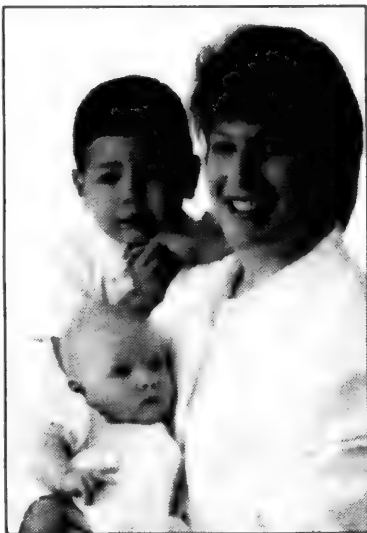
• Aromatherapy is the rage. Oils and candles add a soft fragrance to help you relax. Add a neck pillow or eye mask to aid in the relaxation process.

• When in doubt, revert back to the gift certificate idea. While it seems impersonal, it allows the gift giver to select their own gift. Too often, people in service professions receive tons of candies, baked goods and other gifts. While thoughtful, there can be too much of a good thing. Try to be original but practical as well.



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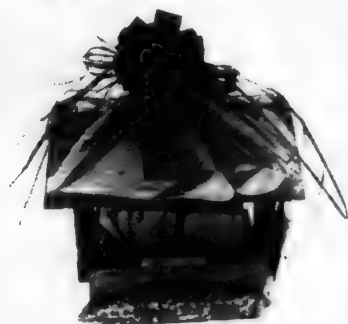
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Science gift books, from itty-bitty bugs to the vast universe

By Ron Berthel
Associated Press Writer

There's nothing wrong with finding bugs in your holiday gift so long as those bugs are in the book "Bugs" (Black Dog & Leventhal, \$24.98) by Frank Lowenstein and Sheryl Lechner.

Before you smugly squash another bug, consider this: If humans disappeared from Earth, insects would barely notice; but if insects disappeared, the world's ecological balance would be disastrously disrupted, the book claims.

This large — almost 14 inches square book contains hundreds of bug facts and hundreds of color photos showing insects many times their normal size.

From crickets to cockroaches, mayflies to moths, beetles to butterflies, various insect species are explored in several ways: behavior, eating habits, social and sex lives, physical features and development, enemies, food, habitats, and relationship to humans.

"Bugs" is one of several books about science and nature that the scientifically minded on your holiday gift list would enjoy exploring.

Another coffee-table book that could obscure the coffee table is "The Invisible Universe" (Bulfinch, \$50) by David Malin. This 16-by-28-inch (when open) volume takes browsers to the far reaches of the universe through 52

telescopic color photos of stars, nebulae and galaxies — among them the Horsehead Nebula, the Pleiades, and the Jewel Box Cluster. Astronomer-photographer Malin provides the story of their discovery and observation, a description of their life cycles, and fitting quotations from Shakespeare, Tennyson, Dante and others.

Perhaps someone on your gift list will go ape over "Orangutan Odyssey" (Abrams, \$39.95) by Birute M.F. Galdikas and Nancy Briggs. The life of orangutans, which live in the tropical rain forest of Indonesia, is explored in text and 100 color photos by Karl Ammann. "Orangutan" is a Malay word meaning "man of the forest," a fitting name because orangutans share 97 percent of humans' biological makeup. Images include Adik, an orange-furred male standing upright, as orangutans sometimes do, on a wooden footbridge; an adult male approaching a female friend and her baby, who might be his son; and a young orangutan displaying considerable strength as it playfully swings from a vine using only one hand.

For those sick of math, there's "The Math Doctor" (Van der Meer, \$29.95) by Ron van der Meer and Bob Gardner. Flaps, tabs, popups, pullouts, dice, colored glasses and a CD-ROM are parts of this interactive kit designed to help you get the hang of math, from simple

(Continued on page 11A)

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Dickens wrote more than Christmas classic

• *Famous for "A Christmas Carol," Charles Dickens also penned a children's book on the Christian stories of Jesus Christ*

By Richard N. Ostling
AP Religion Writer

Many would say that Charles Dickens deserves to be called Father Christmas. His novel "A Christmas Carol" is a seasonal favorite, outranked only by the Nativity accounts in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

"A Christmas Carol," written in 1843, is the best-known of Dickens' Christmas writings. In succeeding years he produced "The Chimes," "The Cricket on the Hearth," "The Battle of Life" and "The Haunted Man." He then turned to shorter and slighter Christmas pieces that appeared in magazines almost yearly until his death.

One other Dickens Christmas item rarely appears on lists of his works: "The Life of Our Lord." The existence of this children's retelling of the story of Jesus from the Gospels remained a secret until it was finally published, long after Dickens' death. It contains

all the basics of the Gospels, from the birth in Bethlehem to the resurrection.

The latest reissue of "Life" is available this Yuletide from Simon & Schuster (126 pages, \$14.95). There's a new introduction by the author's great-grandson, Gerald Dickens, a British actor who's currently performing in "A Christmas Carol" on a 16-state U.S. tour concluding Dec. 20-23 in St. Paul, Minn.

Charles Dickens worked on what he called his "children's New Testament" from 1843 through 1846. Gerald writes that he wrote it strictly for his own family. "He wanted his children to learn about the life and teachings of Jesus Christ in as plain and simple a way as possible."

The writer knew that anything from his pen had great commercial value, but he insisted that this writing remain a private family matter. The author's son Henry stated in his will that he felt constrained by his father's ban but his successors were not so bound. Thus Henry's wife and children gave the go-ahead for publication in 1934.

Gerald writes that "Life" shows the closeness of the Dickens family and the faith of his famous forebear, "which was simple and deeply held."

But what, exactly, was Dickens' religion?

Writing decades after Dickens' death, G.K. Chesterton said that he was typical of many in his day, ignorant of

"The Life of Our Lord" remained a secret until it was finally published, long after Dickens' death. It contains all the basics of the Gospels, from the birth in Bethlehem to the resurrection.

history and scornful toward defined dogmas. Many with such views disliked the Church of England, but the national church had a "curious and sentimental hold" on Dickens, Chesterton reported.

"Once, in a puff of anger at the church's political stupidity (which is indeed profound," noted Chesterton), Dickens briefly signed up with the Unitarians. But that didn't last long. Chesterton said of Anglicanism that "something in those placid services, something in that reticent and humane liturgy pleased him against all the tendencies of his time; pleased him in the best part of himself, his virile love of charity and peace."

"A Christmas Carol" is brimful of that love, of course, to the extent of

extinguishing the season's central message of God becoming man. The Scrooge parable sidestepped "glory to God in the highest" and preached only "good will toward men."

This unnerved a U.S. Presbyterian publishing house when it reprinted "Life" in 1986. The foreword by the Rev. D. James Kennedy said Dickens never claimed to be a theologian and, like many modern church members, "sometimes implied that people are saved by their good works."

But in other statements Dickens seemed to affirm, said Kennedy, "that we are accepted by God through faith alone because of Jesus Christ's payment for our sins on the cross."

Whatever his theology, we are confident of certain things Dickens did believe, stated in the opening words of "Life":

"My dear children, I am very anxious that you should know something about the History of Jesus Christ. For everybody ought to know about Him. No one ever lived, who was so good, so kind, so gentle, and so sorry for all people who did wrong, or were in any way ill or miserable, as He was."

"And as he is now in Heaven, where we hope to go, and all to meet each other after we are dead, and there be happy always together, you never can think what a good place Heaven is, without knowing who he was and what he did."

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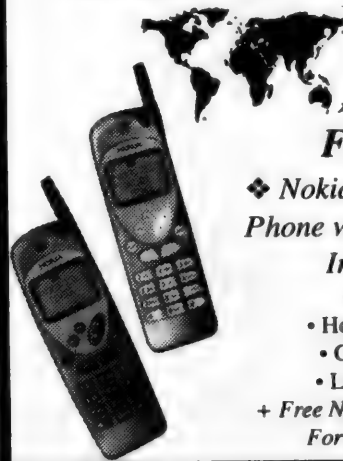
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From itty-bitty bugs to the universe

(Continued from page 9A)

checkbook-balancing skills to complex trigonometry functions. Assemble a 3-D hexagon; learn estimation by placing a square frame over a field of daisies; do algebra with a wheel and tab that reveal the value of X; and pull a tab to watch the Pythagorean theorem in action.

"Desert" (Abrams, \$49.50) by Janice Emily Bowers celebrates the natural splendor of the Southwest's 35,000-square-mile Mojave Desert through 80 color photos by Jack Dykinga. The Mojave is home to more than 100 rare species of plants and to Death Valley, the lowest point in North America. Photos show a purple and orange sunrise over starkly gray Granite Mountains; mound cactus at sunset framing a distant Joshua tree; birdcage evening primrose, grizzly bear prickly pear and other colorful desert flowers; and the Racetrack Playa, where huge rocks, some weighing 300 pounds, leave tracks in the flat sand as they tumble across it.

Frans Lanting traveled to Antarctica, the Falklands and South Georgia Island to take the 110 color photos of those odd but charming black-and-white birds in "Penguin" (Taschen, \$24.99). A four-page gatefold opens nearly a yard wide to reveal countless emperor penguins of all ages on a frozen blue-and-white Antarctic landscape. Other images include a small cluster of chinstrap penguins ambling along in Antarctica, a

pair of macaroni penguins with their distinctive yellow crowns of spaghetti-like strands, and king penguin chicks, all brown and furry, in South Georgia.

Among other choices:

"The Story of Time" (Merrill Holberton-St. Martin's, \$45) edited by Kristin Lippincott. Umberto Eco's preface, essays by several scholars and 400 color illustrations explore the notion of time: its creation, measurement, depiction, experience and end.

"Tulipa" (Artisan, \$65) by Willem Lemmers. Text and 350 color photos by Christopher Baker capture Dutch tulips at the peak of their beauty.

"Mammals of North America" (Firefly, \$40) by Adrian Forsyth. Hundreds of illustrations, including color photos and maps, describe more than 150 species: moles and voles, bats, beavers and bears, whales, wolves and weasels.

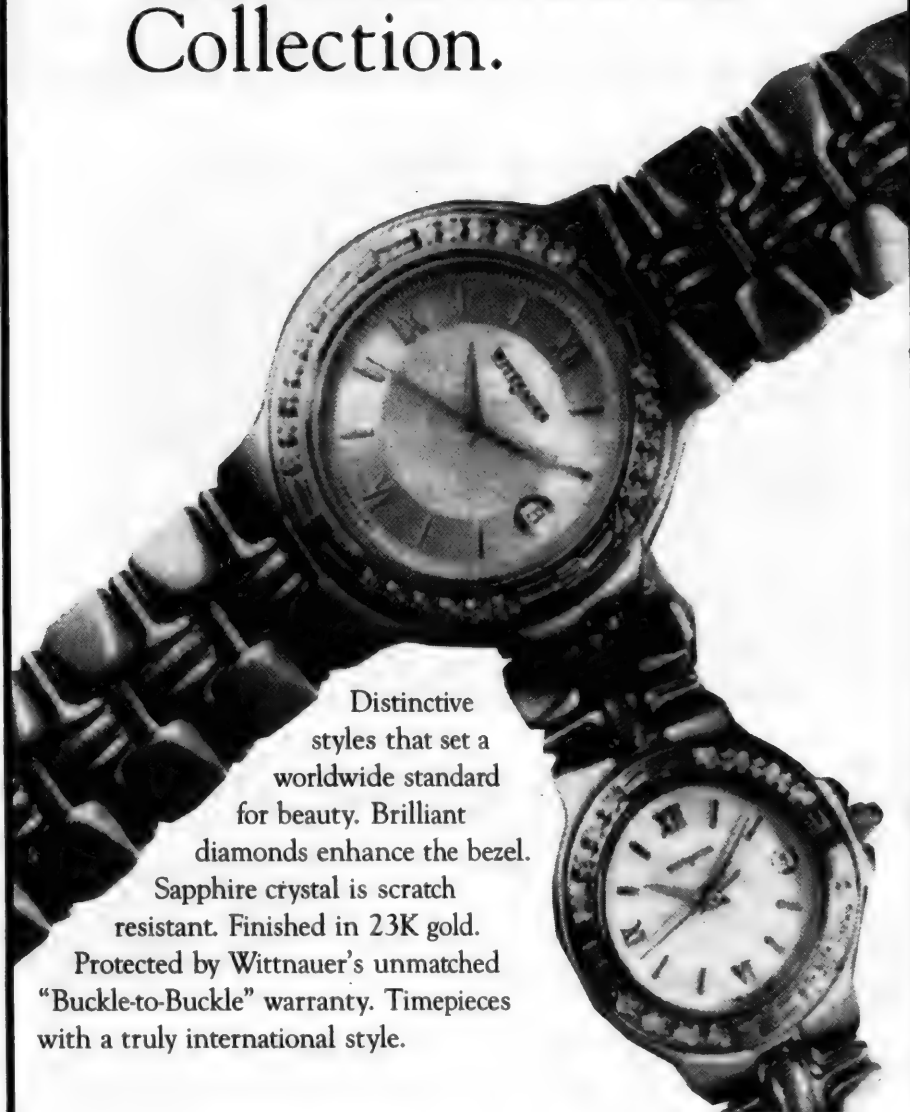
"The American Eagle" (Viking Studio, \$35) by John Pezzenti Jr. Text and 150 color photos show the bald eagle in flight and in battle, hunting, resting and nesting, from Florida to Alaska.

"Landmarks in Western Science" (Routledge, \$35) by Peter Whitfield. Drawings, paintings, diagrams and photos illustrate this chronicle of science's greatest achievements since prehistory.

"The Great Auk" (Abrams, \$75) by Errol Fuller. Text and more than 400 illustrations, many in color, profile the extinct flightless bird, last seen in 1844.

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Power beads are popular fashion statement

WATERBURY, Conn. (AP) — Searching for spiritual enlightenment? Try wearing it on your wrist. The trendy set has recycled a spiritual talisman into a fashion statement.

Power beads — also known as prayer beads, Buddha beads and Zen beads — are bracelets consisting of a series of round, smooth baubles. Each bracelet features one type of stone strung on an elastic cord. Each stone corresponds to a healing power, like love, happiness or strength.

Modeled after Buddhist prayer beads, the bracelets were first marketed by New York designer Zoe Metro and soon after were copied by other manufacturers.

Now that yoga and feng shui have gone mainstream, it's not surprising that power beads can be found on the wrists of all ages and both sexes. They're used as much to generate a positive feeling as to make a fashion statement, said Lise Noble, owner and president of an online retail store based in Boston.

"The difference is that the whole idea of the Buddha beads or power beads is the stones themselves," Noble said. "They are like the stones you used to find in nature shops — the ones you could rub between your fingers. It's thought that these different gemstones contain different powers."

She said the trend began in Hollywood, citing Madonna and Courtney Love as two of the celebrities



Photo by Patricia Ryan

who helped spark the craze. "It's part of the eclectic desire to do things like yoga and spiritual meditation."

Although fashionistas might not be seeking spirituality, beads like those used in power bracelets have long held importance to different cultures and civilizations. Beads have also been used as a currency to buy land, cattle, gold and slaves. Like the abacus, strings of beads were often used to count the number of prayers or repetitions of prayers in worship.

Betsy Loth, a retailer in Waterbury, Conn., said customers are buying two or three power beads are wearing them together on their wrist. Many stores sell larger strings of elastic beads that can be worn as chokers.

"They are doing phenomenally well," said Loth, who sells the bracelets in a variety of stones for \$12 to \$14. "Everybody likes them — all ages. It's not just a fad for kids. It's something everybody relates to."

(Continued on page 13A)

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Power beads are popular fashion statement

(Continued from page 12A)

Some claim the bracelets have therapeutic powers and can help cure physical or emotional ailments.

Like the crystal craze that began in the late 1960s, these bracelets are made from precious stones such as rose quartz, hematite, tiger's eye, amethyst and aventurine, each of which is said to have a corresponding healing power.

"These are pretty bracelets," said Loth, who keeps about a dozen different stones in stock, from tiger's eye to amethyst. "They are comfortable, with the elastic, and the additional thing is

the power idea that particular stones or crystals have certain energy powers that some people subscribe to."

She said faceted crystal beads that are delicate and elegant are now becoming popular.

"Bracelets are the 'happening' item in fashion right now," she said. "Everybody is buying bracelets in all styles across the board. I have never sold as many bracelets as I have this year. They are very pretty, and if you believe the crystals have some effect, why would you get rid of them that fast? It's just one of those things that will be with us for a long time."

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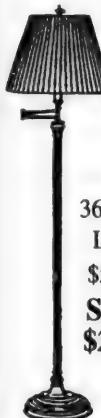
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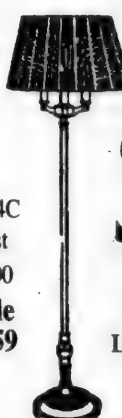
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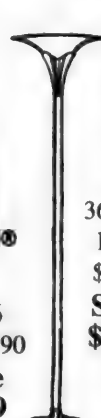


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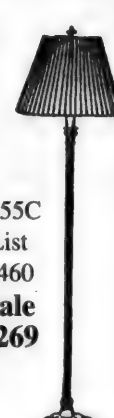


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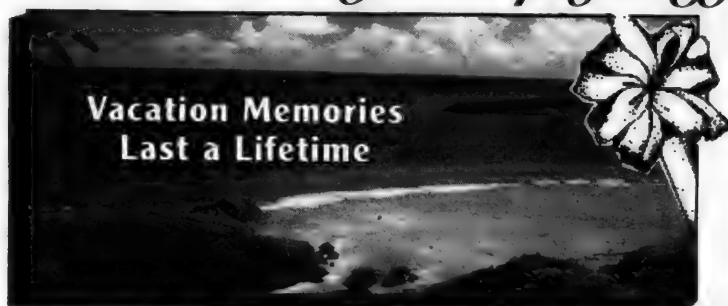
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Packing tips for safe delivery

With the holidays quickly approaching, comes the annual ritual of decorating, entertaining, eating, and of course, shopping for gifts. For those shipping gifts, UPS has some tips to help reduce stress and ensure packages will arrive safe and sound.

Choose a good box

The outer box should be large enough to fit the package and any needed cushioning material. If the box is not new, it must be strong enough to support the contents and able to be stacked with other boxes. Make sure there are no old labels, creases, tears or punctures. The flaps should be intact.

Protect it inside

Surround each item with bubble pack, Styrofoam "peanuts," foam-in-place or corrugated dividers to protect against shock that occurs when packages come in contact with each other or hard surfaces. Wadded newspaper should only be used for lighter packages.

Seal it securely

Use heavy-duty, pressure-sensitive plastic or nylon-reinforced tape. Don't use masking or cellophane tape. Never wrap cartons in paper or tie them with string.

Label properly

The mailing label must include the complete name and address, including the ZIP code. If necessary, make sure to put the business name, apartment or floor number. While you're packing the

box, it's important to place a duplicate mailing label inside the carton in case the outer label becomes unreadable. Pay extra attention to make sure all the information is correct.

Ship as early as possible

Catalog orders may take a day or two to process before being shipped, especially during the holiday season.

Special tips for specific items

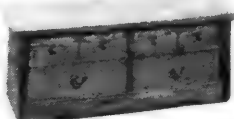
Fragile items, such as glass and ceramics, need extra packaging. Use bubble wrap around these items and place in a separate box inside the packing box. When shipping your favorite holiday cookies, place them inside a smaller container and surround them with adequate packing material. This will help avoid shifting during transit.

Electronic equipment should be shipped in its original packaging, surrounded by additional cushioning materials and placed inside a larger box. If you open the box containing the gift before shipping, be sure to repack it exactly the way it was packed.

Clothing and soft toys may be gift-wrapped and placed in a strong outer carton with protective wrap. Shipping a gift-wrapped package in brown paper will not provide adequate protection.

Plants, fresh fruits or vegetables shipped to California, Hawaii or Arizona require a special blue identification label and are subject to inspection. This can add an additional day in transit.

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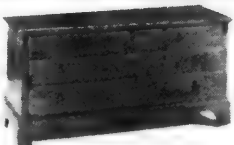
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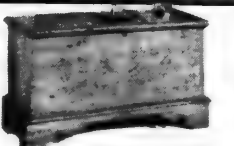
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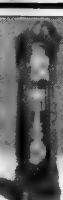
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Holiday spending tips

It's that time of year again - stores are luring shoppers in with Christmas carols and abundant decorations. If you don't watch out, you can end up spending lots more than you originally intended, and get stressed out in the process. The Consumer Information Center has a few holiday money management tips on how to avoid the stress of the season, while at the same time being able to afford all the gifts you buy.

- Take advantage of seasonal bargains. Many stores begin their year-end sales during the holiday season, so be on the lookout for great deals.

- Draw names when considering

who to buy for this year. If your list of family and friends is long, why not suggest this approach to gift giving? This way, one person buys only one gift. Another idea is a Yankee Swap or Kris Kringle.

- Borrow wisely, as credit cards and loans are oftentimes used to make up for a lack of holiday cash. Both allow you to repay the amount owed over a period of time, although you eventually pay for this in interest. Money management experts suggest borrowing only when the benefits are worth the cost. And remember to budget for the credit card and/or loan payments you'll have to make.



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Holidays bring out the best – and worst – in people

By Jennifer Valeri and Michelle Eld

As the holiday season rushes into full swing and Christmas is upon us, you'd expect newspapers would write of peace on Earth and goodwill towards men. Warm holiday columns of how the world can change with the spirit of just one day. Not this one. Amidst the commercialism and glitz of the season comes the stress. People are crazy, rushing from one place to another. So much so that not only have we lost the spirit of the season, we've lost our manners. Last year, we asked area residents how they felt about polite and/or rude behavior and what their pet peeve is.

Holiday haggling

We visited North Andover's downtown to ask people if they saw common courtesy or if there was a lack of such courtesy.

Nilenda DeCola of North Andover said she sees the same lack of simple manners because people are rushed. Her pet peeve – the person who huffs and puffs behind her in line at any store when she writes a check.

"I know I should have it ready," she said. "But sometimes, you don't. And you try to hurry, but they are all in a hurry."

Her friend, Ida, said people are less considerate to senior citizens. "No one holds doors," she said. "They'd let the door slam in your face. They see you with a cane, and they don't care. Even at the post office, they won't hold the door for you."

But, she agreed with most people we spoke to – not everyone is rude. "There are people who are very nice," she said. "Some help you."

Both women said they are also concerned with the state of drivers today. "People are so impatient," said Ms. DeCola. "There's no courtesy driving."

Dave DiTommaso of North Andover vents the grocery store is the source of his frustration. It is the customers in the express line who are purchasing 27 items that are a bit annoying.

Seven manners to teach your children

Lifetime Television offers these tips for raising a polite child

- **Answer people when they speak to you.** Children should understand it is impolite to ignore someone who is speaking to you.

- **Learn how to be a polite guest.** Teach your child to walk, not run, in someone else's home; clean up after themselves, and thank their host.

- **Be nice when someone is in their home.** As a host, they should learn to include any children visiting them in their games and activities.

- **Watch table manners.** By a very young age, children should know to use utensils properly, and chew with their mouths closed. They should also be taught to say "no, thank you" rather than "I don't like that."

- **Teach children gratitude.** Saying thank you is one trait that falls by the wayside too frequently. Explain to children they should say thank you for gifts, send thank you notes, and be appreciative of anything someone gives them.

- **Accept compliments.** Again, a simple thank you should be extended if someone praises their actions or comments on their appearance.

- **Give compliments.** This takes time for children. They should know to say dinner is delicious or say "Good Job" to another child.

But it is highway driving where he finds a lack of courtesy and general knowledge of driving laws.

"It's the one who is either changing lanes on the highway or making a turn that doesn't use his turn signal," he said. "That's a pet peeve."

One resident, asked not to be

(Continued on page 17A)

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Happy Holidays from Jules, Amanda & Steve

Manners: Holidays bring out the best, worst

(Continued from page 16A)

identified, agreed that driving is where people are at their worst.

"They take parking spaces, and cut each other off," he said. "I think the worst is when people are driving. The road problems are awful."

He cited a recent television spot about the number of people who no longer hold doors for people. "I'd have to agree with that," he said. And anyone who shopped in a mall this year would, too.

We did find two happy holiday shoppers who observed no rudeness. One woman said she hoped it was holiday spirit.

"All of the sudden, people are nice," she said. "I have nothing to say, no complaints."

High school student Jason Gabriele said he sees rude behavior on the playing field. Fans who are little too boisterous routing against their opponents, and "trash talking" - insults exchanged between players on the field are the two biggest offenses.

"When you're down, they'll pinch you or twist your ankle, or pretty much anything," he said, adding some schools and players are worse than others.

Parking perils

In Andover, Dave Cantone is the parking clerk, responsible for keeping the lots in order. He sees the holiday rush happening on the roadways and in

the parking lot.

"People are all stressed out because of the holidays," he said. "I understand it."

He said he watches as people circle to find spots close to stores instead of walking a few extra feet and saving themselves aggravation.

Parking is where many of the disputes occur and it is not just a holiday thing. Alert a driver to his or her transgression and they are far from happy. "You get less confrontation from giving someone a \$250 speeding ticket than if you give them a \$10 parking ticket," he said. "People try to force you into confrontation. They try to make you as angry as they are."

His philosophy is let any arguments or stress roll off of him. "I try to keep the love of God in my heart," he said. "I'd have to guard my heart rather than be a sponge and absorb it. It's emotional or spiritual armor."

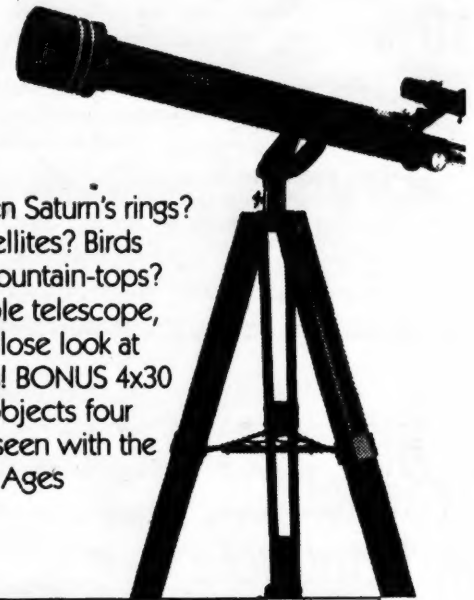
Ellen Leon, who works at the Sandpiper Shop in Andover, said it takes both pleasant customers and pleasant sales people to make shopping easy. As an employee, she said the Christmas season has been "lovely". And as a shopper, Ms. Leon holds some stores in high esteem for their treatment of customers.

"I don't know how they train the people at the Market Basket (in Andover)," she said, "but I give them high marks. They really are wonderful and polite."

(Continued on page 18A)

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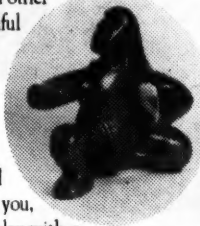
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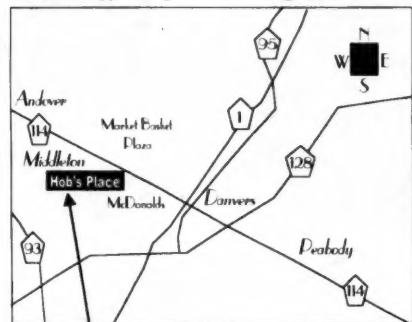
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Manners: Holidays bring out the best, worst

(Continued from page 17A)

Simpler ways

Susan Niele of Wilmington said she misses the simple niceties that people bypass nowadays.

"Nobody says please or thank you or excuse me," she said. "Everyone is just always in a rush. In a crowd, people are more likely to act like that, but I think people just don't say excuse me anymore."

She relates one story of shopping in a large department store. When passing the elevator, one woman would barely let her pass by, for fear Ms. Niele was trying to cut ahead of her in line.

"It was just ridiculous," she said. "People are just in such a hurry to get going."

The holidays have been worse, she said. "There is just so much tension around the holidays for everyone," she said.

She, too, said the tension comes out when people are driving. Making left hand turns is next to impossible, as no one lets you go, but she said she is more aggravated with the driver behind her who expects her to move as quickly as he or she would like.

One Wilmington shopper told us she has no complaints, because the people in Wilmington are wonderful.

When stress makes rude

Mark Gorkin is known as the "On-line Stress Doc". As a licensed clinical social worker, he deals with stress and anger and the things that make us crazy.

According to Mr. Gorkin, the reason people might seem rude during the holidays is because we take the added stress in our lives out in other ways. Instead of talking out a family problem, we mutter under our breath as we drive and get in power struggle on the

road to make up for the one in our home.

He notes the stresses of the holidays can be narrowed down to the four F's: fantasies, family, food, and finances.

• **Fantasies:** With the image of a perfect family Christmas in your head, you could be falling over yourself to make your holidays perfect. Look at the reality of the situation. Your parents could have been just as stressed out as you, only as a child, who noticed? And they had different circumstances in their lives. Different financial situation, different work environment. Do what is right for you, not "just like Mom did."

• **Family:** Any family feud or argument will be amplified at the holidays. Resolve them or learn to live with them. Do not try to change the attitude of others. It won't work.

• **Food:** You will overindulge. It is the 11th holiday commandment. Make sure to keep with your normal exercise or eating habits. Running on an empty stomach will only add to the stress.

• **Finances:** This is perhaps the biggest stress for people, and the one they don't discuss. Just at the time when you are reviewing your finances for the year, the biggest shopping season strikes. Mr. Gorkin suggests people learn to say no to some of their child's requests. Children need to learn limits. Attempt to be creative with larger families, drawing names to buy for only one person. And try handmade gifts to cut down on costs.

As for the lack of manners you might find, Dave DiTommaso of North Andover offers a little insight. While he gets a little upset at drivers or shoppers, he said he tries to keep it in perspective.

"If that's the worst of our problems, then I think we're doing okay," he said.

Travel books take readers to far corners

By Karen Schwartz
Associated Press Writer

If someone on your holiday gift list dreams about faraway places, a coffee-table travel book could be the ideal gift.

Although these hardcover volumes are too large and heavy to cart along to the far corners of the world, they'll provide great reading from a nearby corner chair.

"Cuba" (National Geographic, \$50) by Elizabeth Newhouse, photos by David Alan Harvey.

Harvey's rich and evocative photos celebrate the fascinating country that is Cuba. The images honor Cubans' vitality, humor, ingenuity and indefatigable spirit. Text offers an overview of Cuba's history, describes current life there and speculates about its future. "Today, after 40 years of revolution, Cuba floats in a sea of isolation," Newhouse writes. "Cubans at all levels play parts in a surreal drama whose ending is not in sight, yet cannot be far off."

"The Heart of Burgundy: A Portrait of the French Countryside" (Simon & Schuster, \$30) by Andy Katz.

Beginning about 75 miles south of

Paris, Burgundy spans more than 200 miles across Chablis, Cote d'Or, Cote Chalonnaise, Maconnais and Beaujolais. Katz celebrates the grapes, vines, vineyards and culture found in these rolling hills. His images capture the landscape and sunlight that help produce some of the world's best wines. There are no chapters, and no text to accompany the photographs, which evoke a mood as much as tell a story.

"Israel: Land of Contrasts" (Tauris Parke-St. Martin's, \$49.95) by Rachel Goldmann and Nicola Forg, photos by Tom Krausz.

Israel is a land of stark contrasts: antique and modern; Judaism, Islam and Christianity; and peace and conflict. The book's chapters include "City of Three World Religions," "Biblical Sites in the Green Land" and "Planning and Traveling." The authors write: "There are many areas on our planet that still remain largely undiscovered. Israel is not one of them. Quite the contrary: No other country has been the subject of such intense media reports (and) such violent debates, and has people of such diverse origins expressing such firm

(Continued on page 20A)

A sampling of family traditions

Some traditions change Morning rituals

By Jennifer Valeri

My mother was a stickler. We couldn't even peek downstairs on Christmas morning until the whole family was awake. Then, after my parents arose, we'd go downstairs together. Dad would make his cup of coffee, and we'd all take our places. I, as the youngest, opted for the seat closest to the gifts. My brother, growing far too mature for all the fuss, sat at the farthest chair, and Mom and Dad sat together.

I took the role of Santa, delivering piles of gifts to everybody. Gifts were first, stockings left for last.

While the times have changed, and now it is my 13-year-old nephew outgrowing the fuss, the holiday tradition of gathering together and one of us playing Santa still holds. Just like the debate over our nativity scene.

Again, my mother the stickler would not allow us to place the baby Jesus in the manger. On Christmas Eve, we had a mini-ceremony after returning from church, where one of us placed the baby in the manger. She insisted on waiting until Christmas Eve.

Now, in my own home, with still weeks left until Christmas, baby Jesus rests inside the small crib of my own nativity scene.

Some traditions are meant to be carried on, while others change as the families change.

By Michelle Eld

Getting up at the crack of dawn on Christmas morning is a must in the Ross household. Okay, maybe not dawn, but pretty close to it. Whoever is the least tired from the night before gets up early to wake everyone up. It's usually me, which is unusual because I'm the oldest. Old traditions die hard, I guess.

While Dad puts on coffee and Mom runs around getting trashbags and doing last minute things, my brother, sister and I head for the stockings in the living room first. We all empty them simultaneously, oohing and aahing over the candy, money, nylons, nail polish, socks and baseball cards (my Dad still thinks we're 10 years old).

Then it's Mom and Dad's turn, and even my cat gets a treat in her mini-stocking.

After that whole affair is done, we move on to the sunroom where the Christmas tree stands twinkling and blinking. Sometimes if one of us remembers, we put on faint Christmas music in the background.

We each take a seat around the room: the girls usually get the soft couches, while my brother and father are relegated to the cold hard seats at the small table.

A Santa is chosen, which usually is me or my Dad, and each present is

(Continued on page 20A)

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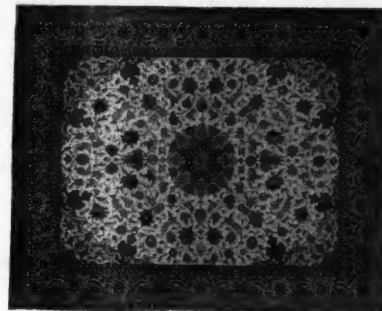
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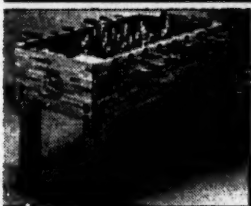


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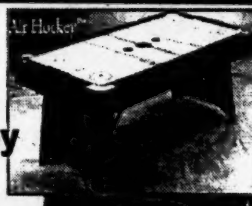
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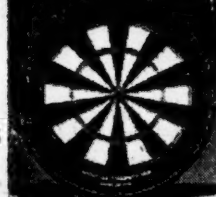
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Travel books take readers to far corners

(Continued from page 18A)

views about it, some of whom have never been there."

"The Tibetans" (Viking Studio, \$35) by Art Perry.

With the Dalai Lama's approval, Perry spent five years traveling through Tibet and the Tibetan exile communities in Nepal and India, taking black-and-white photos of the people at their daily activities. Perry writes: "Before I traveled to Tibet I was well aware of the utopian Shangri-La myth and imagined I would see monks in red robes praying under the morning sky; high desert nomads with their luxuriant hair in 108 braids ... And the truth is, I found all this and more." This is a fascinating book.

A sampling of family traditions

(Continued from page 19A)

handed out in turn. Apparently, family law says two people cannot open gifts at the very same time. So, needless to say, this portion of the Christmas festivities takes a long time - about an hour and a half.

And there's no such thing as ripping open presents haphazardly either. My mother is intent on saving each and every bow so that she may use it on presents next year. So bows have a separate trash bag, while another is designated strictly to gift wrap. Sometimes we throw balls of wrapping

"America, America" (Abbeville, \$45) by Robin Magowan, photos by Sonja Bullaty and Angelo Lomeo.

Bullaty and Lomeo have been photographing America's highways and byways for nearly five decades, and this book is a collection of their most memorable images. Chapters include "The Open Road," "Rural Life," "Skyscrapers," "Americans," and "Wildlife." The photos vary widely, from the rim of an active volcano to a sign at Minnesota's Mall of America. Magowan's words probe the vision underlying the photos. Accompanying one of Mount Rushmore: "The compulsion to create a work on the biggest scale possible seems perfectly comprehensible to Americans."

paper at the cat to play with, who goes berserk and has the time of her life.

Invariably, someone has to break out the camera and attempt to take photos of the others in their pajamas and fuzzy slippers.

After opening each gift, the "giftee" gives the "gifter" a hug and kiss. And so it goes.

Then, as we all realize time is of the essence and we have to get ready for the day, we rush through the rest and head for the showers.

Even though we're all grown, we still go through these rituals every single Christmas morning without fail.



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